TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION

FOR

Improving the Condition of the Poor,

FOR THE YEAR 1855;

WITH THE BY-LAWS AND A LIST OF MEMBERS.

ORGANIZED, 1843-INCORPORATED, 1848.

'The quality of mercy is not strained; It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven, Upon the place beneath; it is twice blossed; It blesseth him that gives and him that takes."

NEW YORK:
JOHN F. TROW, PRINTER, 53 ANN STREET.
1855.

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PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

Held in Clinton Hall Lecture Room, Astor Place, November 12th, 1855

James Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read by the Recording Secretary, and, on motion, approved.

The Treasurer presented his Annual Report, which was accepted, and ordered to be published with the Annual Proceedings of the Association.

The Annual Report of the Board of Managers was read by the Corresponding Secretary; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Report now read be accepted, printed, and circu lated under the direction of the Board.

The Association now proceeded to the Election of the following Officers, Managers, and Supervisory Council for the ensuing year; after which the Meeting adjourned.

OFFICERS, MANAGERS,

AND

SUPERVISORY COUNCIL.

President.

JAMES BROWN.

Vice-Presidents.

GEORGE GRISWOLD, JAMES LENOX,
JAMES BOORMAN, HORATIO ALLEN,
A. R. WETMORE.

Treasurer.

ROBERT B. MINTURN.

Corresponding Secretary and Agent. ROBERT M. HARTLEY

Recording Secretary.

JOSEPH B. COLLINS.

Supervisory Council.

The first in order is the Chairman of each District Committee.

FIRST DISTRICT.

James C. Ramsey, James Cruikshank, John Harris, John M'Intyre, William Bogardus.

SECOND DISTRICT.

George W. Abbe, Joseph F. Sanxay, William Sharp, Dan. N. Tucker, J. L. Watkins.

THIRD DISTRICT.

W. D. Harris, J. L. Baldwin, Ervine H. Tripp, Charles Van Wyck, Wm. Allason.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Abraham Fardon, Jr. Archibald Hall, Hugh Aikman, Charles Chamberlain, John Gates.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

A. R. Wetmore, N. P. Hosack, L. G. Evans, Nathan Brown, Samuel Burrell.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

N. C. Everett, Stephen Conover, Daniel Fisher, Frederick Lockwood, George Walker.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

John H. Griscom, M. D. Stephen Cutter, B. G. Bruce, Thomas Warren, R. S. Place,

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

Joseph B. Collins, John Endicott, Charles C. Dyer, O. D. McClain, Darius Geer.

NINTH DISTRICT

James O. Pond, M. D. Jacob S. Miller, M. D. Thomas B. Richards, Jereniah Terbell, Daniel French.

TENTH DISTRICT.

James Horn, Joseph M. Bell, H. Van Arsdale, M. D. E. A. Fraser, James Wier.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

S. P. Patterson, David L. Young, Andrew Storms, Charles Perley, W. R. Siney.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

Charles N. Decker. William H. Colwell, James Davis, Henry Patterson, Spencer Gregory

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

Lewis Chichester, Thomas Kennedy, Charles Merrill, William A. Walker, John Burr.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

Alexander W. Murray, Richard Brown, Henry P. West, Peter Carter, David Terry.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

Thomas Denny, 'William G. Bull, Joseph Lawrence, James Marsh, Adon Smith.

Luther Jackson, H. K. Bull, J. P. Cumming, Mark Cornell, James Cowl.

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

S. C. Lynes,
James R. Gibson,
William Truslow,
William K. Johnson,
James Reeve,
H. McLean,
James Demarest,
D. H. Smith.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

F. E. Mather, William Walker, Adam W. Spies, J. H. Earle, Nathaniel Hayden.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT. NINETEENTH DISTRICT

O. W. Morris, J. C. Miller, John Osborn, David B. Scott, John Harper.

TWENTIETH DISTRICT.

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT.

Isaac Gibson, J. Stephenson, Edward Roberts, W. B. Bibbins, M. D. C. C. Savage.

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT.

A. M. Lyon, J. C. Hepburn, M. D. S. Fleet.

S. S. Winterson, E. F. Rankin,

Elected Members of the Supervisory Council.

J. C. Greene, Jonathan Sturges, Thomas H. Faile, George T. Trimble, E. J. Woolsey, Wm, H. Aspinwall,
John C. Baldwin,
William B. Crosby,
Thomas Cock, M. D.
William G. Bull,
Table 1. John D. Wolfe,
Lorillard Spence
F. S. Winston,
Peter Cooper,
Erastus C. Bene William G. Bull.

Lorill rd Spencer, F. S. Winston, Erastus C. Benedict.

Elected Members of the Board of Managers,

Stewart Brown, John T. Adams, Wilson G. Hunt, Charles N. Talbot.

VISITORS

Appointed by the Advisory Committees for the ensuing year.

FIRST DISTRICT.

John Love, George F. Randolph, John McIntyre, John Harris, James C. Ramsey, Henry Ropes, William Johnson, A. L. Stimson, Henry Gilbert, Robert Curtis, John Brown, N. C. Rexford, George Hatt, George Hatt, Secretary.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Harris M. Baldwin, Joseph F. Sanxay, George W. Abbe, D. N. Tucker, William Sharp, John L. Watkins. George Hatt, Secretary.

THIRD DISTRICT.

H. S. Terbell, William Allason, Richard B. Lewis, Wright Gillies,
V. Le Comte,
James W. Dunning, Robert Lewis, Edward Pratt, Secretary.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

H. Whittlesey, A. A. Jane,
A. J. Henderson,
Charles Emmons,
Charles M. Decker,
E. W. Dudley, Thomas Bristoll, Thomas Briston, S. Waterbury, William A. Maxwell, Charles F. Williams, William A. Brusle, S. Fanning, Henry Whittelsey, Secretary.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

Wm. H. Kinsley, A. R. Wetmore, John Hewett, J. La Wall, Wm. Henwood, Moses Cristy, Wm. Van Allen, Wm. B. Eager, M. D. N. P. Hosack, John Cook, George Richmond, Peter Mood, James M. Mathews, L. G. Evans, A. N. Brown, Nathan Brown, Samuel Burrell, William Jennings, John A. Kennedy, Thos. E. Smith, Benjamin F. Clark, Isaac E. Smith, Philip Teets, Thos. McLaughlin, Richard Ritter, Edward Pratt, Secretary.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

Noah Worrell,
Daniel Fisher,
John M. Clawson,
Andrew Hume,
Frederick Lockwood,
Lorenzo Carey,
Moses B. Taylor,
George Walker,
Abraham Florentine, Jr.
George W. Lowerre,
Henry A. Riehardson,
William Campbell,
John Gould,
Samuel Baxter,
Samuel Waddell,
Alexander Brandon,
Richard Tritton,
Amzi Camp, Scerctary.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

Warren Rowell,
C. J. Harris,
T. Warren,
Freeman Poole,
R. S. Place,
Joseph Carson,
Joseph Hoxie,
Harman Tremper,
J. B. Horton,
Wm. Lane,
T. L. Cuyler,
Wm. Rudyard,
B. G. Bruee,
John C. Graham,
Lewis Watkiss,
Roosevelt G. Secor,
Jonathan B. Horton, Sceretary.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

Samuel Tooker,
O. D. McClain,
Wm. Alexander,
Daniel Conover,
Harvey Miner,
M. C. Traey,
James Winterbottom,
Daniel Howell, jun.
James Fowler,
Charles C. Dyer,
Nicholas Van Heynegen,
Henry W. Ryerson,
C. P. Dakin,
R. B. Newman, M. D.
John Endicott,
E. E. Price, M. D.
John Gillelan,
Lawrence Wiseburn,
Darius Geer,
J. B. Walton,
Wws. Kirby, Sceretary.

MINTH DISTRICT.

J. B. Ferguson, H. S. Van Beuren, O. T. Wardell, Reuben Ayrce, Ira C. Pierson, Henry P. See, John H. Deems, Richard A. Thorp, William Bogert, Thomas Ackenback, William Marston,
Wm. A. Foster,
John Ruston,
John B. Huse,
Cyrus W. Price,
M. Allison, jr.
Thomas Angus,
John Warne,
Joseph Triner,
John C. Carson,
James V. Freeman,
M. H. Howell,
Lewis E. Jackson, Secretary.

TENTH DISTRICT.

J. W. Lester,
Wm. Jones,
Joseph M. Bell,
C. Mott,
James Weir,
Wm. Wheaton,
E. A. Fraser,
Henry Wicker,
C. V. Clarkson, M. D.
Henry R. Jones,
Henry R. Jones,
Henry R. Jones,
J. G. Barrett,
Charles Place,
J. G. Barrett,
Charles Place,
J. P. Prall,
Wm. C. Bradley,
D. W. Britton,
James W. Munroe, Secretary.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT

Godfrey Schutt,
Wm. H. Tice,
James B. Turner,
John Cameron,
R. A. Barry, M. D.
Henry Wood,
James Wissing,
Jesse M. Sande,
Charles Perley,
Wm. D. Craft,
Peter Squire,
Cornelius Waldron,
Alson Rozell,
Moses Gardner,
Morris F. Blieh,
John M. Cornell,
John P. Conklin,
Alexander MeVey,
Samuel Parkhill,
Peter R. Crum,
J. W. Schuler,
Walter M. Brown,
George H. Dawson,
John H. Bulen, Keeretary

TWELFTH DISTRICT

Jacob Dunn,
John Hanson,
John L. Ambler,
Wm. H. Colwell,
John Green,
Hiram B. Gray,
R. C. Andrus,
W. S. Carman,
Wm. Porter,
J. S. Hickson,
John H. Holland,
John C. Graff,
John L. Ambler, Searctory

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

Wm. F. Nash,
John Hutchings,
James Kellogg,
John Burr,
John R. Marsh,
Lewis R. Case,
J. A. Clark,
Henry N. Bogart,
Henry Wood,
Charles Merrill,
John B. Pomeroy,
Gilbert D. Smith,
Abraham Trafford,
Alpheus Carpenter,
Rodman E. Field,
B. Hutchinson,
Thomas Brown,
Charles Post,
Simeon Sage,
Wm. Anderson,
James W. Bishop, Secretary,

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

John G. Semon,
Henry P. West,
Thomas Sparling,
Richard Brown,
Bezaleel Howe,
David Terry,
C. B. Pearson,
Alfred Goodell,
Nelson Stelle, M. D.
Warren Ward,
S. L. Macomber,
Thomas Baker,
William Miller,
Nelson Sammis,
Peter Carter,
Gideon Peck,
A. W. Murray,
James Knox,
James Knox,
William Gray, Secretary

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

Isaac Orchard, Charles Sullivan, Henry Holman, David Lane, David Stevens, William Weeks, Benjamin Lord, John Mollard, Isaac Orchard, Secretary

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT

H. Boynton,
James Sample,
S. Merritt, jr.
A. H. Holdridge,
J. D. Adams,
Jacob Smith,
S. Bridger,
G. Whitely,
R. F. Halsted, N. D.
Peter Fulmer,
James Gowl,
James Hart,
A. Smith,
William Good,
John McIntyre,
James Polloek, jr.
D. Irwin,

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D. L. Beatty,
D. Slater,
C. C. Darling, Secretary.

SEVEENTENTH STR ICT.

James Duff,
John Wilkin,
John Martin,
H. Griffin,
Wm. M. Franklin,
J. R. Bigelow, M. D.
John Wood,
L. S. Murphy,
James Wood,
D. T. Stanniford,
Stephen K. Earle,
R. Thompson,
David Stevens,
Barak G. Colce,
James R. Gibson,
T. Franklin Smith,
Francis Duncan,
A. L. Halsted,
E. M. Kellogg, M. D.
James Vickers,
Richard Horton,
Robert G. Dickson,
Cyrus Ramsay, M. D.
Henry M. Smith,
Asa W. Fry,
C. H. Smith,
Rickard Horton, Secretary.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

B. F. Butler, jr. William Forrest, James Houston, Thomas D. Smith, W. C. Burke, M. D. J. P. Alley, M. D. S. V. Bagley, D. S. V. Bagley, L. Hazeltine, H. Q. Mack, N. R. Long, Peter Brewer, J. J. Greenough, J. Couper Lord, William Ennis,

R. H. Lievesley Henry Moore, J. B. Ballard, Secretary.

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.

Charles Smithson,
J. C. Miller,
David B. Scott,
J. Harper,
G. T. White,
D. Richards,
M. A. Seward,
John Turner,
Enoch Mack, Secretary.

TWENTIETH DISTRICT.

H. McLean, T. Haight, J. Townsend, H. G. Stone, J. Beaver, F. Gregg, W. H. Seeley, Z. S. Ely, T. W. Horsfield, M. D. S. Curry. J. J. Ellendorf,
J. Brack,
D. Monteith,
A. T. Canfield,
A. H. Deniston,
H. W. Smith, M. D.
M. Prentiss,
Rickard Hayter, Secretary.

TWENTY PIRST DISTRICT.

E. Roberts,
Wm. P. Moss,
Richard Kelly,
John Clark,
Robert Dunn,
T. E. Cooper,
E. T. Winter, M. D.
John Reed,
S. S. Childs, M. D.
Isaac Gibson,
A. G. Dunn,
Henry Dunn,
C. C. Savase,
Jeremiah Lockwood,
Josiah F. Cadmus, M. D.
Josiah F. Cadmus, M. D.
J. B. Ballard, Secretary.

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

Samuel S. Winterson, E. H. Munson, S. Fleet, Philip Dunn, J. H. Croft, J. W. Schermerhorn, Jobiam Wilson, Enoch Mack, Secretary.

Office of the Association, Bible House, No. 39 Third floor, entrance on Eighth-street.

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BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

EVERY person who becomes an annual Subscriber, a member of an Advisory Committee, or a Visitor, shall be a member of the Association.

ARTICLE II.

The President and Secretaries shall perform such duties as usually pertain to their office.

ARTICLE III.

The Treasurer shall give such security for the faithful performance of the trust reposed in him, as the Association may demand and approve. He shall take in charge all funds; keep an account of all receipts and disbursements; and pay all duly authorized demands. At the Annual Meeting he shall render a particular and correct statement of all his receipts and disbursements to the Association for the preceding year. He shall also exhibit a summary report to the Board of Managers, at their stated meetings, and whenever called upon by them for that purpose.

ARTICLE IV.

The Board of Managers shall have exclusive control of the funds of the Association, and authority to make By-Laws; to fill vacancies in its own body; appoint the Advisory Committees; and generally to adopt such measures as the objects of the Institution may require. It shall meet for the transaction of business on the second Monday of every month, except July and August; and the annual meeting of the Association shall be convened on the second Monday of November, when the Board shall submit a report of its proceedings, and the officers and managers be chosen. In case of a failure to hold the specified meeting in November, a special meeting for the same purpose shall be convened in the course of the ensuing month.

ARTICLE V.

Special meetings of the Board of Managers, and of the Supervisory Council may be called by the Secretary, at the request of the President, or on receiving a requisition signed by five members. Two days' notice must be given of the time of meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The Managers may at any time make such alterations in these By-Laws as may be deemed necessary; provided they be not contrary to the Act of Incorporation, and that such alterations shall be submitted to the Board of Managers at least one meeting before the same are acted upon; and that they shall not be passed upon unless specified in the call of the meeting, and when a majority of the whole number of the Board of Managers is present: but they may be amended at any stated meeting consisting of said majority, by the unanimous consent of all present.

ARTICLE VII.

An office shall be opened, in an eligible situation, for the purpose of concentrating and diffusing all information pertaining to the Society's operations and objects, and for the transaction of its general business.

ARTICLE VIII.

It shall be the duty of the General Agent to devote himself with diligence and fidelity to the affairs of the Association.

ARTICLE IX.

The city shall be divided into twenty-two Districts, each Ward forming a District; and the districts be subdivided into Sections. Each District shall have an Advisory Committee, to consist of five members; and each Section a Visitor.

ARTICLE X.

It shall be the duty of the Advisory Committees to divide their Districts into such Sections as to apportion to each about twenty-five families requiring attention; endeavor to obtain a suitable Visitor for each Section; supply vacancies which may occur; make the necessary arrangements for placing at the disposal of the Visitors food, fuel, and clothing for distribution; and, on some day in the first week of every month (excepting the meetings of July and August, which may be omitted in the discretion of the Committees), to convene all the Visitors of the Sections, for the purpose of receiving their returns, and conferring with them on the objects of their mutual labors. The Committees, moreover, shall duly draw upon the Treasurer for such propor tion of the funds as may be appropriated to their Districts; they shall keep a strict account of all their disbursements, and only in extreme cases make departions of money; they shall monthly render an account of their expen-

ditures to the Board of Managers; and, in default of this duty, shall not be entitled to draw upon the funds of the Association. Each Committee shall appoint its own Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, and shall transmit the Reports of the Visitors immediately after each monthly meeting, with any other information they may think desirable, to the General Secretary. Each Advisory Committee shall be authorized to nominate to the Board of Managers suitable persons to fill vacancies in said Committees.

ARTICLE XI.

It shall be the duty of each Visitor to confine his labors exclusively to the particular Section assigned him, so that no individual shall receive relief, excepting in the Section where he is known, and to which he belongs. The Visitors shall carefully investigate all cases referred to them before granting relief; ascertain the condition, habits of life, and means of subsistence of the applicants; and extend to all such kind services, counsel, and assistance, as a discriminating and judicious regard for their present and permanent welfare requires. And, in case of sickness, it will be their duty to inquire whether there is any medical or other attendance needed; whether relief is afforded by any religious or charitable society; to provide themselves with information respecting the nearest Dispensary; and, in all cases, when practicable, to refer applicants for aid to appropriate existing societies. When no other assistance is provided or available, they shall draw from the resources of this Association—not money, which is never allowed to be given, except with the consent of the Advisory Committee or a member thereof-but such articles of food, fuel, clothing, and similar supplies, as the necessities of the case require. In all cases of want coming to the knowledge of the Visitors, they will be expected to perform the same duties, although no application has been made. It shall be their duty, moreover, to render a report of their labors, and also ap account of all their disbursements to their respective Committees, at the stated monthly meeting. No Visitor neglecting these duties will be entitled to draw on the funds of the Association.

ARTICLE XII.

The Board of Managers, the members of the Advisory Committees, and certain elected members, shall together constitute a Supervisory Council, whose duties shall be deliberative and advisory; and its annual meetings be held on the second Monday of November in each year. Special meetings of this body shall be held when called by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XIII.

It shall be the duty of the Members of the Association to endeavor, in al suitable ways, to give practical effect to its principles; especially to discountenance indiscriminate alms-giving and street-begging; to provide themselves with tickets of reference; and, instead of giving aid to unknown applicants

whose case they cannot themselves investigate, to refer such applications to the Visitor of the Section in which the applicants reside, in order that such cases may properly be inquired into, and, if deserving, be relieved.

ARTICLE XIV.

The printed forms of tickets and orders for relief shall be designated by the Board of Managers, and no other shall be used.

Incorporation.

CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

TO INCORPORATE THE NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR.

The undersigned being each and every of them of full age, and citizens of the State of New York, desiring to associate themselves for the benevolent and charitable objects hereinafter expressed, that they may become a body politic and corporate, and be enabled to conduct the business of the Association in the City and County of New York, according to the provisions of an "Act for the Incorporation of Benevolent, Charitable, Scientific, and Missionary purposes," passed April 12th, 1848, do for these purposes hereby certify,

I. That the name and title by which such Institution shall be known in law is the "New York Association for Improving the Condition of the

Poor."

II. That the particular business and objects of such Association shall be the elevation of the physical and moral condition of the indigent; and, so far as is compatible with these objects, the relief of their necessities.

III. That the Board of Managers to manage the same shall consist of one President, five Vice-Presidents, one Treasurer, one Corresponding Secretary and General Agent, one Recording Secretary, the Chairman of each Advisory Committee, or, as his proxy, some other number of said Committee, and four

members, to be chosen by said Board of Managers.

IV. That the following named persons shall constitute the Board of Managers for the first year, to wit; James Brown, President; George Griswold J. Smyth Rogers, James Boorman, James Lenox, and Horatio Allen, Vice-Presidents; Robert B. Minturn, Treasurer; Robert M. Hartley, Corresponding Secretary and General Agent; Joseph B. Collins, Recording Secretary; together with the following elected Members and Chairmen of the Advisory Committee, namely: Stewart Brown, Frederick S. Winston, Erastus C. Benedict, John R. Ludlow, Daniel S. Briant, William Gale, Peter G. Arcularius Abraham Fardon, Jr., Apollos R. Wetmore, Nicholas C. Everett, Calvin Tra-

cy, James O. Pond, James Horn, Samuel P. Patterson, Lewis Chichester, Adam W. Spies, Thomas Denny, Luther Jackson, Stephen C. Lynes, and F. Ellsworth Mather.

In witness whereof we hereunto have subscribed our names, in the city of New York, this the eleventh day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight.

JAMES BROWN,
GEORGE GRISWOLD,
J. SMYTH ROGERS,
JAMES BOORMAN,
HORATIO ALLEN,
ROBERT M. HARTLEY,
JOSEPH B. COLLINS,
STEWART BROWN,
FREDERICK S. WINSTON,
DANIEL S. BRIANT,
PETER G. ARGULARIUS,
ABRAHAM FARDON, JR.

Apollos R. Wetmore, Nicholas C. Everett, Calvin Traoy, James O. Pond, James Horn, Lewis Chichester, Adam W. Spies, Thomas Denny, Luther Jackson, Stephen C. Lynes, F. Ellsworth Mather.

Witness as to all the Signatures, D. F. CURRY,

City and County of New York, [ss]: On the eleventh day of December, A. D. 1848, before me came George Griswold, J. Smyth Rogers, Horatio Allen, Joseph B. Collins, Luther Jackson, Abraham Fardon, Jr., Lewis Chichester, Daniel S. Briant, Nicholas C. Everett, James O. Pond, Adam W. Spies, F. Ellsworth Mather, James Horn, Frederick S. Winston, Peter G. Arcularius, Stephen C. Lynes, Calvin Tracy, and Robert M. Hartley; and, on the twelfth day of December, A. D. 1848, before me came James Brown, Stewart Brown, and James Boorman; and, on the thirteenth day of December, A. D. 1848, before me came Apollos R. Wetmore and Thomas Denny, to me known to be the same persons described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, who severally acknowledged that they executed the foregoing instrument, for the purpose therein mentioned.

D. F. Curry, Commissioner.

I approve of the within Certificate, and allow the same to be filed,

H. P. Edwards, Justice Supreme Court.

New York, Dec. 14, 1848.

STATE OF NEW YORK, SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Albany, Dec. 16, 1848.

I certify that the Certificate of Incorporation of the "New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor," was received and filed this day in this office.

ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, Dept. Sec. of State.

Twelfth Annual Report

OF THE

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR.

The Board of Managers herewith respectfully submit their Twelfth Annual Report:

The year just closed, has been one of the most remarkable in the history of the Association. In former years, desolating epidemics, at intervals, swept over the City, deranging business, dispersing the population, and strewing in their path a sad amount of sorrow, sickness and death. There have also been severe winters, and times of depression, when employment was scarce, and industry but poorly rewarded. Trying, however, as were these visitations, they occasioned less suffering from want, than fell to the lot of the poor by the disasters of the past year.

There is here at all times, however prosperous, besides the usual poverty occasioned by sickness and misfortune, a vast amount of permanent indigence, peculiar to the maritime position of this great Commercial Emporium. As this imposes a heavy tax upon the population, and makes the largest claim on eleemosynary relief, its origin and nature should be understood. There are, also, other causes of poverty, of irregular and uncertain occurrence, which deserve consideration. Both these classes of causes having been active the past year, it appears necessary to refer to both—not in all their relations and complications, for

that would be impracticable in the limits assigned this Report; but to a few of the more prominent in each class, so far as they evolve facts bearing on the objects and operations of this Association. Pursuing this course in the order suggested, among the causes of permanent indigence may be noticed:

First. Immigration.—It is generally true of immigrants arriving at this port, that though many bring nothing with them, beyond those sure elements of prosperity—frugal habits and ability to labor, far the greater part have sufficient means to carry them into the interior, where they become useful, self-supporting citizens. The influx of foreign capital, skill and labor, through this channel, especially from England, Scotland, and Continental Europe, has been singularly advantageous to the country. An elaborate statement of facts is unnecessary, or it might be shown that, notwithstanding the number of foreigners who claim gratuitous relief, the physical capability, the industry, the skill and wealth of the country, have been substantially augmented by foreign immigration.

It must, however, be admitted that there are serious drawbacks to these advantages, that should not be overlooked. These consist of immigrants of a less desirable class—the depraved, the diseased, and the indolent-many of whom, having been sent out of their own country as paupers or criminals, become a burden and a nuisance from the time of their arrival. The consequent disadvantages are mainly felt in this City, which is the great point of debarkation, where very many, either from choice or necessity, remain. Hence, most of the immense mass of indigence and beggary that crowd our almshouses and prisons—traverse our streets as vagrants, and absorb our charities; including not only the diseased, the decrepit and imbecile, but also multitudes of foreign outcasts, who, though able-bodied, are so pauperized in spirit, as to be unable or unwilling to earn their subsistence any where. If to this list is added those of more cultivation and pretension, if not efficiency, who are constantly attracted to this great cosmopolitan City-strangers and adventurers from every land-of all imaginable shades of character and pursuit, who, through lack of capacity, opportunity, or other reasons, have here, as elsewhere, been unsuccessful—some idea may be formed of the amount of mendicity and permanent pauperism from this source alone, that is thrown upon this City.

As the official Statistics of Emigration shed light on this subject, they may be briefly referred to. The grand total of immigrants relieved or assisted by the Commissioners of Emigration in this State, during the past year, was 119,390, of whom 110,390 were cared for in this City. And of the 1,946,398 immigrants that have landed at this port since May 5th, 1847, 617,000, or nearly one third of the whole number have required aid; and \$2,250,000 have been expended for their benefit. Here is irrefragable proof of the amount of indigence thus brought into the State, of which this City receives so large a part. It lies upon the surface, and is forced on public attention every hour. It is true, that Commissioners have been appointed to care for this class of persons, and it is not to be supposed that they have trifled with their great responsibilities. But this offers no contradiction to the fact, that most of the beggars who swarm our streets, besiege our dwellings, and persistently demand our alms, are immigrants of the kinds described. It is not in place here to point out and discuss the defects of a system which allows the evils it was designed to prevent. It is sufficient for the present to show that it does not prevent the accumulation of a large mass of permanent indigence in this City. And if, with the public spirit and admitted business ability of the Commissioners, such are the necessary effects of the system, then it would appear that it is inadequate to its objects, and should forthwith be amended, or protection sought from the Federal Government.

Second. The overstocked condition of the Labor Market is another fruitful source of this description of indigence. With labor, as with every other marketable article, the demand should regulate the supply. When this principle is regarded, there will follow a right distribution of labor, and permanent remunerative employment; if disregarded, there will be ruinous competition, forced idleness, and inevitable suffering. No legislation or contrivance can evade this perpetual law; for it is impossible with one man's work, to give proper employment to three or four. The evils of surplus labor, when very limited in duration, may for a time be alleviated, by charitable and philanthropic appliances; but when wide-spread and perennial, there is no remedy, except a distribution of the surplus labor in places unsupplied. Now, it is the want of such a distribution of labor that imposes, as a fixture, a

large mass of indigence upon the City. There are here, at all times, thousands upon thousands of persons, both male and female, beyond the actual industrial demands, who, while they remain, are necessarily doomed to idleness and dependence. Not that the City has reached a point, in population and progress, which it cannot surpass; but that labor, by its excessive concentration here, so far exceeds the demand, as to become itself the cause of the evils it suffers. And the pressure is most severe upon unskilled and inefficient laborers. As a general fact, steady, skilful mechanics, and sober, reliable workers, male and female, in ordinary times, find employment, and consequently are the last to suffer. It is the mechanics of inferior character and skill, and especially the lower grade of laborers of both sexes, and their families, chiefly foreigners, that contribute to swell, at all seasons, the number of the permanently dependent.

Third. Another cause of perpetual indigence in this City, is the improvidence of labor. In the country at large, the majority of the working classes are intelligent, industrious, and thrifty; and consequently seldom feel the privations of poverty. Happily, in this City, there are many who merit like praise. The deposits in the Savings Banks the past year, of \$2,348,653 53, afford ample confirmation of this statement; and the withdrawing, in the same time, of \$3,323,146 86, or nearly a million more than the deposits, is proof not only of the pressure on labor, but of its ability, by forecast, to care for itself. If labor generally had a reserved fund to draw upon, in times of depression, there could be no suffering, for there would be no poverty. Without such a fund, as fluctuations and reverses will come, suffering at such times will be inevitable. Hence the wide-spread distress of the past winter in this City. According to the published estimates of the "Associated Working Men's Committee," there were 195,000 men, women and children, in absolute want, of whom 120,000 were accustomed to provide for themselves, and also for the remaining 75,000, who were dependent upon them. To supply these with necessary food, at ten cents a day each, would require a weekly expenditure of \$136,500. Without vouching for the accuracy of this statement, it is evident that no public or private efforts could for a length of time furnish employment for one half this number, or the means of their subsistence. Labor alone

can provide for such an emergency, when work and wages are abundant. Making, however, due allowance for exaggeration, and all unavoidable causes of poverty, what a palpable proof is here presented of deficient prudence and foresight on the part of the laboring classes! With numerous honorable exceptions in their favor, it is still true, that too many manifest a disposition to spend, rather than to accumulate. If labor, reckless of the future, spends as it earns, of what avail, against a time of need, are plenty of work and good wages, or, indeed, of any interposition in its behalf? A little extra expense, a fit of sickness, or interruption of employment, subject them to want and suffering. And, unhappily, as the numerous liquor shops witness, much of their surplus earnings are worse than wasted. The result of careful inquiries on this subject, shows that the mechanics of this City expend as large a sum for strong drink, including loss of time, &c., consequent on its use, as their employers annually save, and more than would be needful to carry them through the severities of winter, or any ordinary depression. And though the habits of the lower class of laborers have not fallen under the same scrutiny, the fact, doubtless, applies to them, at least with equal force.

This reference to the chronic pauperism of the City, has a two-fold object: first, its reduction; and second, to show that if such is its prevalence in prosperous times, much greater must be the aggregate, when sudden, wide-spread reverses come, multiplying new conditions and causes of poverty. Such reverses were the sad experience of the past year. Disaster followed disaster. Trade was interrupted, labor paralyzed, and the industrial classes, to an extent never before known in this City, menaced with distress and staryation.

These calamities were foreshadowed and aggravated by the events of the summer and autumn of 1854. The first marked indication of relaxing industry, appeared in the depression of wages and diminished demand for labor. The consequent pressure upon working men, produced discontent and *strikes* among the trades, in order, as rent and cost of food were exorbitant, to bring up wages to the exigencies of the times. Many, mistaking antecedents for causes, attributed their sufferings to collusion among capitalists and employers, to enrich themselves, by oppressing

industry. But such modes of redress only aggravated their grievances. The causes which produced this state of things, affected both employers and employed, who are mutually dependent and necessary to each other. The refusal of work, therefore, at such a time, for successive weeks and months, because offered at reduced prices, was not only profitless but ruinous to the disaffected, inasmuch as it occasioned a positive loss of wages, and a waste both of their time and means, in a vain conflict with those laws, by which work and wages are regulated. Hence, by pursuing a course inimical to their own interests, large numbers of our hitherto self-supporting mechanics and their suffering families, were for the first time added to the dependent list.

Prominent also among the special causes which aggravated the general distress, were the drought and blighted harvests of the past year. As the surplus products of the soil originate the capital which gives employment to industry and activity to commerce, a deficiency of such surplus is attended with depression and suffering of greater or less severity. The first effect of short crops is a rise in the price of food, which is most felt by the laboring classes who constitute the great mass of consumers. Next follows scarcity of employment and diminished wages, consequent upon the lessened demand for manufactured articles, on the production and sale of which, multitudes depend for the means of buying the necessaries of life. And if at such times (as was the case in this City) confidence in business circles is impaired by fraudulent bankruptcies and reckless speculations, capital is locked up that would otherwise have been advantageously employed, enterprise is depressed, pecuniary embarrassments ensue, and general distress, especially among the laboring classes, is the certain result.

Such, as is well known, were the effects extensively experienced in this City. To the ordinary mass of poverty, there were large accessions of respectable persons from the industrious classes, who before had been chiefly self-supporting. "This winter, unlike any of the fifteen preceding it, saw thousands of able and generally industrious men and women reduced to distress and beggary, by the sudden failure of employment. Journeymen discharged from closing founderies, factories, yards, and workshops; sailors without ships; porters, and even clerks from

broken mercantile establishments, or those who had taken in all possible sail in order to weather the raging storm; laborers hitherto employed in the vast building operations of the City, now almost wholly suspended; servant girls thrown out of place by the collapsing of fortunes or the vanishing of incomes—all these in addition to chronic pauperism and professional mendicity," combined to usher in the winter with very gloomy presages.

The Board under these circumstances, endeavored to prepare the Association for whatever special demands, the exigencies of the times might make upon it. With this view the number of Sections and Almoners was increased, and the sectional divisions so altered when necessary, as to equalize as nearly as practicable, the amount of relief in each. All the Sections were supplied with competent Visitors, the most of them with persons of long experience and tried fidelity; and general publicity was given to the names and residence of those in each Ward, to whom the needy should apply for assistance. Nothing, indeed, foreseen was left undone to meet the impending crisis, or that was deemed necessary to the completeness, efficiency and availability of the organization.

The most remarkable feature in the general distress, as before intimated, was the respectable character of many of the applicants. It was very trying to witness so large a number of our valuable fellow-citizens, including industrious mechanics, and energetic women who never before had needed charity, now asking aid to save themselves and families from suffering. Not that these constituted a new class of the dependent, for our records have always shown such, and preëminently for the benefit of such, in order to save them from discouragement and debasement, and from sinking into the vagrant pauper class, this Association was instituted. In former years, however, there were comparatively few of this class that required aid, of course but few to be relieved. And as they were unreached by any other elevating instrumentality, and could be reached and restored to self-support by this, and thus an otherwise prolific source of pauperism be cut off—the motives for the relief of such, always peculiarly strong, were urged by important social considerations, not less than by those of humanity and philanthropy. This casual reference to our principles here, appears necessary, in order

to correct a misapprehension, which to some extent has prevailed on the subject.

The scarcity of employment and high price of family supplies, not only justified a larger amount of relief generally, than was necessary in former years, but the better class of the needy who had hitherto been self-sustaining, required even more than would suffice for the commoner class. To such, therefore, the Visitors were specially instructed to give more freely according to their necessities, and to treat them with the consideration which a proper sympathy for misfortune inspires.

With the second winter month, the destitution had increased to an extent before unknown in the City. There was much privation, some suffering, and many cases of persons brought near to the lowest point at which existence could be sustained, before they made known their wants. There was, however, no starvation, no clamor, no outbreaks; but a patient, tranquillizing confidence in the benevolence of their fellow-citizens, and in the disposition and ability of existing charitable organizations, to do as in former years, all that was practicable and necessary for their relief. There was, moreover, among the poor, much self-reliance and effort to do something for themselves, an eager willingness to accept of little jobs, and to go anywhere with their families, that offered to their exertions a prospect of support. Very different, however, was the spirit manifested by many of the same class, after the memorable "Soup Dispensation," in this City.

Although the distress had not yet reached its height, the number aided by this Association was nearly three times as great as at the same period in any previous year. As the Institution had never before passed through so severe an ordeal, its power of expansion and of adaptation to the extraordinary pressure was fully tried, and with triumphant results. With the increase of indigence, there was necessarily an increase of labor on the part of the Visitors, which rendered their duties, always arduous, exceedingly laborious. But the system itself was found adequate to the emergency, and to any that was likely to arise under the action of its own long-tried principles. It was clearly demonstrated that with the ample means a confiding public continued, without appeal, to pour into its treasury, it could as effectively care for a large as for a smaller number; and that it afforded an

assurance of relief to all proper subjects, so far as confided in, for the entire City. The Visitors, stimulated to special efforts by their increased responsibilities, were never before more faithful and devoted. In proof of their fidelity, it was shown, that in no previous winter were there so few complaints, either of mistakes in judgment or inattention to duty.

. But whilst the Institution was pursuing its noiseless and unobtrusive course, proving by its ministrations in the midst of unprecedented distress, its ability to accomplish all that it had undertaken, or the exigencies of the City required, its action was not only disturbed but seriously embarrassed by outward agitations, the elements of which, unhappily, always abound in this City. The poor found false friends and advisers who evidently were more intent on securing their own ends, than the benefit of those whose interests they professed to advocate. Numerous meetings of the unemployed were called at the Park, Washington Square, and other places, ostensibly for the purpose of providing relief for the needy, but whose real objects were neither social nor economical, but political. No one will deny that the working classes have the same unquestionable right as capitalists or politicians, to meet, discuss and investigate questions bearing on their own interests. The more intellectual activity there is among them, the better qualified they become to manage their own affairs and the less likely to be misled by others. While nothing, therefore, can be justly urged against such assemblages, but on the contrary, much in their favor, the perversion of such occasions by inflammatory speeches and false statements to produce mob violence, and excite the poor against the rich, merited the severest reprehension. Such acts, indeed, met as they deserved, the indignant rebuke of the public press and moral sentiment of the City; and it is regretted that the bearing of these movements on the poor, imposes the necessity of their farther notice in this Report.

Some of the professed friends of the working men, hoping to intimidate the Common Council, menaced the City with violence, unless the measures of relief suggested by themselves, were immediately adopted. Others stirred up the unemployed to demonstrations of discontent, by frequent parades about the streets. Some of the agitators went so far as to urge a forcible seizure of private property, openly declaring that their right to it was as

good as another's. It is not easy to conceive to what fearful extent mischief would have ensued, if the laboring classes had been as reckless and unprincipled, as some of their misleaders. But the great mass of the intelligent mechanics and laborers, were law-abiding men, who bore their privations with exemplary fortitude and patience. That the views of these pseudo philanthropists were fallacious and unworthy of confidence, was abundantly shown by facts. All their numerous projects of aid were of the most impracticable kind, that were not, and could not be made available for present or prospective benefit. The needy being necessarily dependent on gratuitous relief, they too well understood the conditions of the question between them and the rich, either to commit themselves to measures that brought no succor. or by any overt act to forfeit the sympathy of the class from whom alone relief could come. It has been justly observed, "that in no other community have mechanics and laborers had less reason to complain of the rich, than in this City. For a long time past, they had been favored with abundant employment, at high wages, almost, indeed, upon their own terms; and when a general depression rendered the continuance of this impossible, men of wealth, and of moderate incomes, contributed most liberally of their means, to mitigate and ward off impending distress. The poor, therefore, could have no worse foes than the men who, for their own selfish purposes, would excite hatred in return for such efforts of kindness, and arouse a feeling in the public mind, which would infinitely aggravate the sufferings they endured."

While these labor-movements were neither justified by circumstances, nor of themselves productive of relief, they tended to create exaggerated ideas of public distress. The unusual cry of want, seemingly uttered by thousands of our fellow-citizens, in the depths of a most severe winter, echoed and re-echoed by the press, excited to an intense degree the sympathies of the community, and a spirit of emulation for their relief. The opulent poured out of their abundance, and the poor "out of their deep poverty, beyond their ability, were willing" to spare something for their poorer brethren. It was not less gratifying to witness than now to record, the numerous spontaneous expressions of commiseration for the destitute from all classes. Some generously gave the profits of their business, others consecrated to this charity the

proceeds of lectures, concerts, and places of amusement. The Board of Brokers, the New York Corn Exchange, and other financial and commercial institutions, made liberal donations; and contributions flowed into the treasury, from different and distant parts of the Union, in aid of the distressed.

Up to this period, the Association had made no special appeal for funds, believing that a humane and considerate public would not withhold the means necessary to meet the increased wants of the suffering. Nor was this confidence misplaced. Private contributions in connection with special donations of the class referred to, had augmented its receipts, even beyond the ratio of its enlarged expenditure.

These labor movements, moreover, preceded and gave rise, as the season advanced, to another influential class of efforts,—the Ward Relief Committees. A new feature was thus given to the charities of the winter, which, unhappily, diminished the resources of the Association, while they increased its outlays and

responsibility.

No similar movement had before been attempted since the establishment of this Institution; nor, excepting in one or two isolated cases, had any Ward deemed them necessary in the preceding twenty years. Their novelty, not less than the interest of their object, gave them an ephemeral popularity, chiefly among those who were unconnected with this and other eleemosynary associations. The fact that most of the movers in these new efforts were uninformed of the amplitude and completeness of the arrangements already available for the indigent, acquitted them of all design of superseding existing organizations.

Twelve of the Twenty-two Wards appointed Relief Committees, some of which co-operated with this Association, and made it the channel of their relief. The majority, however, acted independently of it and of each other, and severally pursued such measures as to them appeared most appropriate to

their object.

To criticise benevolent efforts is so unwelcome a task, that the Board would gladly avoid it altogether. But would such a course, in the present case, be consistent with the duties which the Association owes to the poor and to the public? Its position is one of peculiar trust and responsibility. To it, in an important sense, is confided the voluntary almsgiving of the City. Its objects being the relief of the distressed, the elevation of the indigent, and the repression of pauperism, it is necessarily opposed to all forms of relief which interfere with the attainment of these immensely important objects. In order to remove all apology for impulsive, unwise, injurious almsgiving, it has, for the past twelve years, been endeavoring to perfect an organization at once systematic, comprehensive, and minute, available to all, and adequate, with the existing charities, for the wants of the whole City. It has, moreover, faithfully endeavored to correct the prevalent mistakes of impulsive relief, by permeating the public mind with sound practical principles; and it has the satisfaction to know, that, so far as these principles have been observed, good has been effected, and its efforts appreciated by an intelligent community.

In fulfilling this important mission, the Association is required to exhibit a faithful and intelligible account of its labors and results. But this it cannot do without referring to contemporary movements, which are interwoven therewith, and have had a direct bearing upon it. While a notice of such movements, therefore, is unavoidable, it carefully distinguishes between them and the excellent persons whom circumstances have connected therewith. While it is plain, moreover, that no deference should be paid to mere theories on the subject, but to practical facts, it is equally plain, that, for the nature and sequences of such facts, the Board is not responsible. In accordance with these views, it may be remarked,

I. That the Ward Committees appear not to have grown out of any actual knowledge of the destitution in the City. It is not known that they were preceded by thorough explorations or sufficient inquiries to ascertain whether new organizations were required, or whether there were or were not any wants unrelieved, which called for their aid. Certain it is, that this Association, covering, with its 361 Visitors, the whole ground, and having a full knowledge of the condition of the poor, could discover no necessity for such committees, but very many against them. Up to the time of their appointment, all the needy in the city, it is believed, were adequately cared for; and, after that time, Ten Wards were effectually assisted by it without their aid, and without the evils

attendant on such modes of relief, though some of these Wards were among the most needy in the city. To say the least, therefore, Relief Committees appear to have been unnecessary: and, in this opinion, the public press not only concurred, but also all those who were best acquainted with the poor, and with the existing arrangements for their relief.

II. If these Committees did not originate in any ascertained necessity, were they not, in most cases, the offspring of impulse rather than of an intelligent judgment? A few philanthropic men, of warm and ardent natures, worthy of all love for their kindly affections, were first impressed with the idea that some new effort was necessary; and their ardor kindling others, the sympathy spread, until most of the Wards were agitated by a storm of excitement. Under such influences, exaggerated rumors, not ascertained facts,—impulse, not principle, were the chief impellants. All the public communications of the Relief Committees confirm this view. There being few preliminary investigations or explorations, every thing was taken for granted, and they honestly imagined men, women and children were dying of starvation! Hence, the calm, considerate action of the existing organizations was by some repudiated as too "exact," "frigid," and "methodical.' There must be new schemes of relief, to meet, as they expressed it, "the spontaneous up-rising of their sympathy." One of the Committee reports says, "Humane men looked in vain for an effective mode of reaching the painful destitution. Existing associations were all insufficient or too indifferent to satisfy the glowing sympathy of warmer hearts." And again, "Doing works of mercy by machinery, through the frigid laws of 'economic science,' did not meet the demands of this newly awakened humanity!" What a pity that nature had not so made the beautiful instinct of compassion as to require no other regulator! As nature, however, did not do this, such charges may be dismissed with the remark, that this "newly awakened humanity," as it appropriately termed itself, appears wholly unconscious of the fact, that, while it ignores principle, it subjects itself to the vagaries of unreasoning impulse, and gives no security that it will not produce greater evils than it attempts to remove.

III. The organization of Ward Committees materially dimin-

ished the resources of the Association. The unprecedented number of the destitute, and the intense sympathy in their behalf, had prepared the way for a corresponding increase of contributions. And as such were actually made, a large part of the fund raised would doubtless have been realized by this Association, if it had not been diverted therefrom by the Ward organizations, whose urgent appeals and numerous solicitors so anticipated the calls of this Association as suddenly to diminish its supplies. Two-thirds of the Wards, where there were Relief Committees, did not contribute to this organization more than one-fifth of the amount which it expended for their benefit. Failure for want of funds would consequently have been inevitable, if unable to obtain four-fifths of this outlay from other sources. The calls of these Committees, moreover, happening soon after the Association had distributed its financial circulars, they, in many instances, received the benefit of them from persons who will not probably discover the mistake until they find their names are omitted among the accredited donors of this charity. These matters are not referred to for complaint, but because of their bearing on the resources and action of this Association. Its objects are attained when the poor are judiciously cared for, whoever may be the almoners.

IV. While the resources of the Association were thus diminished, its burdens were increased. Paradoxical as it may appear, the liberal outlays and earnest efforts of the Ward Committees threw a larger amount of applicants upon this Association, as statistics prove, than if no such aid had been given or Committees existed. Up to this time, notwithstanding the prodigious increase of its dependents, such were the nicely adapted arrangements of the Association for every emergency likely to arise, that it experienced no difficulty in providing for every proper subject of relief; nor was there cause to apprehend embarrassment from any legitimate increase of this class that might ensue. While such increase was steady and gradual, as the poor exhausted their reserved fund, they were promptly cared for by the self-adjusting action of the Association; and hence, as before remarked, there were no cases of real need unrelieved by this or other existing organizations. Simultaneously, however, with the appearing of the Relief Committees, applicants to this Association for relief rapidly increased in all the Wards thus represented. In some, the number doubled in one week, despite the relief of the Committees. This, in some cases, was owing to the mistakes of the new almoners, who naively supposing that this Association relieved only the most degraded, chose those less so as their recipients; and that none might be overlooked, such almoners were instructed to thoroughly search the homes of the poor-"pass no house or apartment where honest poverty could hide itself."—relieve those who gave prima facie evidence they were of the better sort, and refer the residue for aid to this Association. In some Wards much more exceptionable distinctions were made; and, as in all, the utmost publicity was given to these relief movements by placards, the press, and otherwise, their direct tendency was not to allay the popular excitement, but to increase it. For it stirred up the poverty of the city from its foundations, and excited expectations of relief, which could not in the nature of things, and should not in a majority of cases, be realized. Thousands were thus thrown upon the Association, irrespective of their deserts or actual need. Its Visitors, in some sections, were so overrun by applicants, that they were compelled to resign; others, worn out by incessant labors, were obliged to be supplied with assistants. Even the office of the Board, where relief is never given, was crowded by clamorous beggars, who had been sent there by Ward Committees. Nor should the fact be suppressed, that some of the Ward meetings committed the most indefensible indiscretions. One of them passed a resolution, advising the poor not to pay their rent, and appointed a vigilance committee to protect them in refusing. These things were witnessed with alarm, and many wondered whereunto they would grow. It was the expressed conviction at the time, that if the recklessness of some Committees had been general, the public peace and security would have been endangered. For the class now excited had less moderation and self-control than the mechanics earlier in the season. Never before were applicants so numerous, importunate, and unappeasable. It being blazoned abroad that there were ample means for their relief, they claimed it as a right and not as a favor. A million of dollars might have been spent without satisfying their rapacity or doing them good; and then, there was the painful consciousness that a

large part of what was given fostered pauperism and mendicity, and was worse than wasted,—that many of them were not conscious of being poor enough to need aid, until stimulated to apply for it,—while others, abundantly able to struggle on without assistance, suddenly relaxed their exertions, and threw themselves on gratuitous relief.

There were other causes which also conspired to impose weighty responsibilities upon the Association of a kind not anticipated. Among these may be noticed, the restricted amount of aid by the Almshouse and Emigration Departments. In respect to the former, it is but justice to remark that its published report of out-door relief shows the expenditure to have been much greater than it was understood to be from private statements. Its trust was doubtless discharged with the conscientious belief that all required had been done. Yet, it is none the less true in regard to both these institutions, that thousands of persons legitimately belonging to them, were aided by this Association,-less, oftentimes, from choice than necessity. It was, indeed, so far misled by its sympathy for the suffering, as to make the failure of these charities, rather than its own rules, the measure of its relief. It could not witness the abounding destitution among those who had claims on them and other sources of aid, without granting at least temporary assistance, which occasioned a large expenditure. This outlay, in addition to other causes referred to, brought upon the Association more wretchedness and want than its ordinary resources, diminished as they were by the Ward movements, could supply. To meet this emergency, it was generously aided by donations of money, at different times, by the Common Council of the City. Such an expression of sympathy for the poor, and of confidence in the Association, was not only gratefully appreciated and acknowledged by the Board, but it desired to show that such confidence and sympathy were not misplaced. These donations, however, instead of diminishing the labors of the Institution, greatly augmented them, by multiplying the claims upon it. For it could not consistently refuse to disburse the public fund it had accepted for the benefit of the public poor, though such poor fell not properly within the scope of its objects. As large a sum nearly was thus drawn from its treasury for such relief as it had received, besides imposing on its almoners an incredible amount of labor that should have devolved on other institutions.

Graduation of Relief.—By reference to previous Reports it will be seen that in former years relief was carefully graduated according to the actual necessities of the indigent. But, last year, this ratio of relief could not be observed in those Wards where the action of the Association was embarrassed by the before-named causes; and in some, notwithstanding its strenuous efforts to the contrary, such ratio of relief was completely reversed. It has before been shown that applications for aid were greatly augmented by the labors of the Ward Committees. Both class of facts will be illustrated by the following statistics of a few Wards in different parts of the City, which fairly represent the remainder:

Wards in which were Relief Committees.

```
Increase of Families Re-
                                   Increase of Expenditure in
  lieved in 1855 over 1854:
                                     1855 over 1854:
    In one Ward, 219 per cent.
                                   In the same Ward, 302 per cent.
                 238 "
                                                " 447 "
    In another,
        66
                 341 "
                                           66
                                                     804 "
    66
                 550 "
                                                    1144 "
Average Increase of
                                    Average Increase of Ex-
                 337 "
                                                      674 "
  Relief.
                                      penditure,
```

In the following Wards there was as large a ratio of destitution as in the preceding; but, as shown, a much less relative increase of the needy, and of expenditure.

Wards in which were no Relief Committees.

```
Increase of Families Re-
                                    Increase of Expenditure in
  lieved in 1855 over 1854:
                                      1855 over 1854:
    In one Ward, 166 per cent.
                                      In the same Ward, 175 per cent.
                 201 "
                                                   11 121 11 11
    In another,
    66
          66
                  221
                                                        307
                 434 "
                           66
                                              66
                                                   66
                                                       420 "
                                    Average Increase of Ex-
Average Increase
                                                        255 " "
                 255 "
  of Relief,
                                      penditure,
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According to the above exhibit, there was an increase of relief in the Wards having outside Committees of 82 per cent.,

and in expenditure of 219 per cent. above those having no such Committees; and also a marked discrepancy in such Wards between the number relieved and the outlay,—the increase of expenditure, in some instances, being double the ratio of relief. On the contrary, in those Wards in which the indigent were under the sole care of this organization, it is shown not only that the relief and outlay were materially less than in the other Wards, but there was that exact coincidence between the number relieved and outlay, which this system, left to its own undisturbed action, effectually secures,—both being 255 per cent., while in the other Wards the increase of numbers was 337 per cent., and of expenditure 674 per cent. It is proper to remark, that the Ward in which the number relieved and expenditure were greatest, though it contains many poor, is one of the wealthiest in the City.

Numerous other facts and figures not less striking might be adduced, if space would permit, illustrative of these different modes of relief, but one other sample must suffice. In 1854, in one Ward, which contains a larger ratio of poverty than any other in the City, this Association relieved 1,645 families; in 1855, it relieved, in the same Ward, 4,664 families, showing an increase of 284 per cent., while the increase of expenditure was 277 per cent. Now mark the contrast. In 1854, it relieved, in one of the wealthier Wards, 846 families, being all that needed aidthe difference of relief, compared with the foregoing Ward, clearly proving the superior condition of the population. 1855, in the last-named Ward, there were relieved by the Committees and this Association 3,819 families, or an increase of 454 per cent., while the expenditure was augmented 1,144 per cent. Is it urged that the poor in the latter Ward were not before discovered? The experience of the past twelve years abundantly shows that the needy readily find out this Association, nor is there the shadow of proof that any such were previously neglected or overlooked. Hence, if all proper aid, as is believed, was given in the former Ward, it follows, that in the latter, a large part of the relief and outlay was probably wasted on improper objects. Nor are such evils the less mischievous or deplorable because this Association, by the force of circumstances, has, in some degree, been made a party thereto. Earnestly intent on such a

disbursement of the funds intrusted to it as would subserve the best interests of the poor, and desirous of conveying light and truth on this subject to the homes and hearts of the population, it will no more spare its own aberrations than the mistakes of others.

Soup Kitchens.—Soup kitchens were generally established by the Ward Committees the past winter. This mode of relief the Association has ever considered injudicious. Reluctant, however, to obtrude its views on others, or unnecessarily to conflict with those who, at the time, were intent on doing good, it carefully avoided all mention of the subject, and would not now have referred to it, if its silence had not been misconstrued into a sanction of measures which its convictions disapprove. But the reasons which justified its silence now call for its vindication. Modes of relief, because of their tendencies, are not less important than relief itself. Being, in an important sense, set for the defence of sound administrative principles, it not only wishes them to be known but to be judged by them. Meanwhile, it is desirous of improving on itself, and to follow in the wake of those who may improve on it; and asks no deference for its principles or practices farther than they furnish in themselves, their own recommendation and justification.

Soup Kitchens are not a new form of relief. They are, at least, as old as the times of Count Rumford, who introduced them into Bavaria, and urged their adoption in England and other countries. They have been tried over and over again, until their mischiefs have been so fully ascertained, that they now find favor nowhere. It is now a recognized principle among sound social economists and philanthropists, that the poor should not be aided in promiscuous masses at soup kitchens, but by personal visits at their homes. That charity is least worthy of the name which only gives gold. Dr. Chalmers says: "There is nothing like visiting from house to house; there is nothing like going alongside the poor man. You can then talk to him, and he will freely talk to you, when he thinks you feel an interest in his welfare." It is not more certain that the poor should be relieved, than that such relief, if possible, be made subservient to their permanent good. Such was the teaching of the only perfect model of charity, who blended such influences with His beneficence, as would morally benefit the recipient. "In the New Testament, almsgiving is always classed with prayer, and is governed by the same rules." Hence, the more secret the act of giving, and the more earnest and personal the effort to render it morally efficacious, the closer its resemblance to that type of charity, which the Scriptures assure us, is most acceptable to God.

The very causes which gave rise to this Association, were strikingly similar to those of the past winter. To relieve the distress, consequent upon the revulsions of 1837 and 1838, soup houses, and analogous modes of relief were resorted to, because of their convenience and supposed economy. Large sums were thus expended, and multitudes assisted; but so revolting were the results, both on the poor and the community, as to furnish conclusive proof that false and dangerous methods of relief had been adopted, and the proper ends of true charity defeated. Instead of aiding the really needy, sympathizing with the unfortunate, reclaiming the vicious, and stimulating the indolent to activity, all the tendencies were to multiply inducements to idleness and imposture. Mendicity, vagrancy, and able-bodied pauperism, with their attendant evils, consequently increased to such an alarming extent, as to call forth those protracted and elaborate investigations, which resulted in the establishment of this Association.

Similar modes of relief, the past winter, were only a reiteration of former experience and results, with this important difference of circumstances: there were already existing ample arrangements for aiding the needy, and it does not appear that there were any proper cases of want unrelieved. The actual indigence, moreover, was under such systematic supervision, as to be entirely controllable, and, with adequate means, there were no fears for the future. But when it was known among the poor that funds and food were provided, which must be disbursed, and numerous depots opened, where all, with little discrimination, would be relieved, then the pauperism that had been restrained suddenly broke out in all directions, and the City was overrun by unmanageable crowds of men, women and children, not only clamorous for aid, and seemingly in great wretchedness, but who often manifested much asperity and bitterness, if they did not get all they asked. As a natural consequence, efforts for self-support were generally abandoned, in the promiscuous strife for this new bounty. Many who never begged before, were tempted to do it now, for they felt that they

had as just a right to public alms as others; each felt wronged who did not get a part, and, as always happens, the least deserving clutched the greatest share. The actors in these movements, in fact, had unwittingly created a panic, and then joining in the cry of distress, they had caused others to raise, imagined that they had made new discoveries of indigence. But as it does not appear that there was any more indigence than was known and cared for before, what they witnessed was neither more nor less than the legitimate effect of their own measures, in breaking down the barrier that had hitherto kept in check the mendicity of the City.

All who have been favored with long-continued observation of the poor—who have studied them, and are in constant communication with them—concur in disapproving of Soup Kitchens, and all analogous modes of relief; and we should do violence to all rules of judgment, as well as to common sense, to reject such testimony. Unless all experience on the subject is a fallacy, it is certain that no individual or family will endure unharmed the ordeal of such public relief. The poor are brought together in masses, under circumstances in which no proper secrecy, delicacy or discrimination can be exercised. They are known and pointed at by their neighbors, as the recipients of public charity. They are thus degraded in spite of themselves—their looks and demeanor show that they feel degraded—that they have lost caste, and can no longer claim their former place among respectable persons. And first sensations of shame being soon obliterated by habit, their once sturdy independence quickly degenerates into a crouching, ignoble, hopeless pauperism.

Is is worthy of remark, however, that the odium attached to such relief, by the respectable poor last winter, tended to neutralize its mischiefs. Most of those who accepted it were of the lowest class of foreign immigrants, or the most dissolute of our own poor. To the respectable poor, nothing could be more revolting than to be fed like criminals, in crowds, at public soup-houses. Even begging, by them, was regarded as less degrading; and they felt that such relief was an insult to their misfortunes.

Next to the social debasement of such relief, one of its worst features is, that it contains within itself the elements of an almost indefinite increase of pauperism. Such has been the experience of other countries for centuries, on a large scale, until it has become the burden and curse of extensive communities. We are now threatened with the same terrible evil, especially from families of foreign birth. Nay, the fact is within the knowledge of this Association, that the malady of pauperism has already, to an alarming extent, become hereditary amongst us, and that children, trained in vice and vagrancy, are following in the steps of their parents. We are, therefore, urgently called upon not to increase it by improper modes of relief, but to eradicate an evil which has no limit, except what the unyielding principles of moral and economic science imposes upon it.

As few things are more instructive than a study of the mischievous effects which attend a deviation from sound principles, it would be profitable to expand the investigation, if space permitted. But it can here only be remarked, that the principles of economic science are uncompromising, and will never rest but with the attainment of their object. However disregarded by the impulsive, or contemned by the inconsiderate and short-sighted, as harsh and unfeeling, they will ultimately show that they are alike the dictate of true philanthropy and sound policy. Certain it is, that all schemes of relief which violate these principles, will bring wretchedness upon the individual, and far-reaching evils upon the community. The more public, indiscriminate, and promiscuous such relief, whether given at our doors, in the street, or to crowds at Soup Kitchens, the more certain it is, that the relief will wrong the truly needy, make paupers, and defeat all judicious efforts at social amelioration.

The future course of this Association is, therefore, as plain as the past has been instructive. Experience shows that it is only by a steady adherence to those principles, whose truth is confirmed alike by every instance of conformity, and every instance of disobedience, that the Association can accomplish the beneficent objects of its organization, and prove a blessing to this vast community.

In conformity with these views, the Association always aims in ministering to present want, to provide for the future; and this it does by inculcating domestic thrift, and lessons of moral improvement. In no previous year have these coincident labors been more faithfully or successfully prosecuted. Adversity often prepares the mind for the reception of good influences, which it would

have stoutly resisted in prosperity. It being, indeed, the only school in which some will learn wisdom, it gave point and force to kind counsel, and developed and nurtured into activity energies and efforts that will tend, it is believed, to the physical and moral elevation of many.

No other class of philanthropic laborers have greater facilities for improving the physical and moral condition of the poor, than the almoners of this Association; and just so far as these are overlooked, or regarded as secondary considerations, its primary designs are defeated. As the greatest good to the poor and to the community, is the elevation of the immoral and thriftless to virtuous habits and self-support, it is the paramount object of every efficient visitor to labor for these important results; and the circumstances under which he goes forth to his work are peculiarly auspicious. Ministering to both body and mind, his credentials bear a recognized seal, which gives him unquestioned access to the homes, and often to the hearts of the downcast and outcast, whom he would benefit, and raise up to the proper aspirations and dignity of humanity. Favored with such advantages for doing a great and good work, the Institution is not satisfied with what it has accomplished, especially in regard to social and moral improvement. It is, therefore, not only pressing with reiterated urgency the importance of these objects, but endeavoring to facilitate their attainment, by employing all the means which the accumulated experience of the past suggests.

A volume might be compiled from the incidents and results of the past year's relief. Among the multitudes assisted, poverty and its concomitants have been presented in every imaginable and unimaginable phase. Cases of distress and wretchedness are pictured in some reports, that would blanch the cheek with emotion and wring the coldest heart. Visitors of quick and generous sensibilities have been so wrought upon by the misery they have witnessed, as to give them sleepless nights. Others have been so shocked by the sickness, sufferings and debasement of the poor, as to be driven from their field of labor with the painful consciousness that their temperament unfitted them for the work they had chosen. Others again, and these the most numerous, have been cheered in their appliances of charity, and found, in assuaging wretchedness, an ample reward for their self-sacrificing toils.

But deeply interesting as has been the work to those personally engaged in it, the limits of the Report will only admit of a few such abstracts from the Visitors' returns, as may indicate their modes of action for the attainment of moral results. Says one,

"Not feeling quite satisfied with the influence I was exerting on the poor in my section, I used the following expedient to increase it. Late in December, I revisited all the families on my list, for the purpose of more deeply interesting myself in their affairs, and of giving them such counsel as opportunity and occasion might suggest. More than two weeks were thus employed at intervals, with satisfaction to myself, and I trust with profit to the visited. It now occurred to me, as I had become well acquainted with what was peculiar in the condition of each, that there would be an economy of effort with equally advantageous results, by inviting a few of them some evening to my house, where, in a familiar colloquial way, I could talk with them about matters which would be at once interesting and instructive. The first night, but eleven persons attended. I read part of the Association's tract, the 'Way to Wealth,' endeavoring to illustrate and enforce its lessons, by interesting facts and anecdotes. We passed a very pleasant hour, and on parting, I invited them to come the next week, and bring others with them. At the appointed time, I was gratified to find the number of the previous meeting more than doubled. On this occasion I read a chapter of Solomon's Proverbs, and dilated on the instruction to thrift and industry, with which that remarkable book abounds; and closed our meeting with singing and prayer. Thus for several weeks these meetings were continued with increasing numbers and interest, until they were first interrupted by sickness in my family, and subsequently, by my own absence from the City. But I now recur to these friendly gatherings of the poor with satisfaction, believing that many of those who attended, were greatly benefited by them."

Another writes, "I did not know how to sympathize with the poor, until I became a Visitor. I had often before, according to my ability, given of my substance for the relief or mitigation of apparent misery; but I had obtained no insight into the causes of wretchedness, nor of the means necessary to its prevention or

eradication. I was now convinced, that most of the poverty and social evils I witnessed, might be traced to moral causes, and would be aggravated by miscellaneous charity. Hence, my first purpose, was not to misapply alms; my next, to accompany aid with faithful efforts at moral elevation. As a preliminary step, I distributed the Society's tract—'The Economist,' among those who could read, and sought opportunities of reading it to others. I found that I had undertaken up-hill work—often a very unthankful one—and I sometimes was discouraged, when something would transpire to freshen my courage and induce me to persevere. And now, I have the satisfaction to know that I have done some good. I know that I have enabled many families to obtain their own livelihood who had long been dependent; I have comforted and aided many in distress; gathered many children into Sabbath and other schools, and reformed a few hard drinkers. Nav. I believe my efforts, humble as I confess them to have been, were of far greater social and moral worth, than all the alms I distributed."

The following is from an up-town Visitor, on the West side, between 54th and 71st streets, where the population is mostly German, living in shanties. We regret that our limits will only allow very brief abstracts from his interesting report of a Section which contains, probably, as large a number of the needy, unpromising class, as any other in the City.

He says, "My tickets have been from 25 to 75 cents each, rarely exceeding 50 cents—the amount carefully graduated to the

necessities and moral desert of the recipients.

"Finding it impossible to visit all and meet the urgent calls for aid, I cast myself on their truthfulness for protection from deception and fraud. I took down their story in writing—told them that the funds being collected for the deserving poor, it was their interest and duty to help me to apportion the money; that it was wicked on their part to receive aid when they could do without it, or knowingly permit other unworthy persons to share in a fund, contributed for so humane and religious a purpose. I told them, moreover, that I should act on their statements, until by visitation or otherwise, I found something to invalidate their account.

"My treatment of them has been uniformly kind and respectful

—in no instance, manifesting impatience. I have endeavored to be truthful myself, and in no case to resort to artifice. If a discrepancy was discovered between their after statements and previous ones, I gave them the same chance of correcting them, as I would to any whose veracity had been rendered doubtful. Without exception, they have been orderly and respectful. Not an impatient or hasty word has escaped me. In only two instances have any left my room with excited feeling, and in these cases I had an assistant.

"Most of the time my table has been supplied with German and English tracts, particularly with those on temperance.

"I have inquired of every family, whether their children went to Sabbath and day schools; and have urged on parents their obligations, in this respect, and set forth the various benefits that would thus accrue to themselves and children. I have induced some eighty German children to attend the Sabbath School, and quite a number other schools. If we had teachers, I could, with a little additional aid in clothing, have induced as many more to go. Some eight or ten I have persuaded to attend Public School, and obtained the promise of many others. I have been careful not to divert children from other schools to attend the one I have in charge. Two well-educated, intelligent Germans, who have received aid, are efficient helpers in a Sabbath School, teaching the children and adults who cannot understand English. A considerable number of children have also been sent to other schools. My experience and observation lead me to conclude, that all this large German population, living mostly in shanties in the Twenty-Second Ward, can, with the aid of the local churches, be reformed -the children educated, and the parents made a church-going people.

"Mrs. — (his wife) invites, in turn, some six or eight of the German Sabbath School girls, and one or more of the teachers, to spend Friday afternoon with her, in sewing for those who are poorer than themselves. They generally know more about gathering rags and coal than sewing; but this little social circle

promises well.

"At times I have had in my room from a dozen to twenty or more applicants, and addressed them on topics which the occasion called forth. Never have I found more attentive auditors. Although the persons of some are very offensive, and make the air of a room disagreeable in a few minutes, yet, aside from the tax on my health, the intercourse with these poor people has been one of profit if not of enjoyment. I think I have gained the good will and esteem of all who have come to me, even those I could not aid. To do them good has been my object. I have learned many useful lessons myself, and seen in them much to admire as well as deplore. This German population are not debased by vice like those in some other parts of the City. They are industrious and saving; their business is dirty but commendable, and infinitely above rum-selling. Quite a number of them having found work, they have come, and with much warmth of feeling bidden me good-bye."

Another Visitor, after urging the necessity of a competent Assistant, remarks—"I have distributed twenty Bibles among such of our beneficiaries as could read; and gathered out of my Section into a Sabbath School, between forty and fifty children, who previously spent the day in the streets, &c." Our limits forbid farther abstracts.

Increase of Sections and Visitors.—The change of population in some parts of the City, and the increase of the poor in others, have called for a corresponding change in the area of some Sections, and for a numerical increase of both Sections and Visitors. Thus in the Fourteenth Ward there has been an increase of three Sections; in the Sixteenth, six; in the Eighteenth, three; in the Twentieth, two; and in the Twenty-first, five. In all, nineteen have been added. But in the Third Ward, by uniting Sections where circumstances required the arrangement, there are two less; so that the net increase is seventeen, making the present number of Sections and Visitors, three hundred and seventy-eight.

Subjoined is a summary statement of the District Relief, from November 1st, 1854, to November 1st, 1855:—

Number of District or Ward.	Number of Families Relieved.	Number of Persons Relieved.	Number of Visits.	
1	2058	8254	2686	
2	336	1366	505	
3	482	1850	750	
4	1081	3884	1359	
5	1784	7136	2704	
6	1362	5448	1819	
7	1380	5560	1818	
8	2236	8944	2992	
9	2271	8634	3287	
10	979	3898	1618	
11	3357	13428	5043	
12	640	2560		
13	2129	8516	947	
14	2123	8348	3234	
15	827	3308	2723	
16	3061		1227	
17		12106	4139	
	4047	16188	5665	
18	2481	9600	2902	
19	865	3460	1216	
20	4878	9371	4087	
21	2003	8012	2551	
22	2122	8488	2621	

The following is a tabular exhibit of the Monthly District Returns, from November 1st, 1854, to November 1st, 1855:—

1854-5.	Number of Families Relieved.	Number of Persons Relieved.	Number of Visits.	
November December January	963 4179 10501 11866 9234 2925 707 250 268 205 364	\$852 16716 42004 47464 36936 11700 2828 1000 1072 820 1456	1363 5425 13962 16309 12763 4114 1026 374 424 331 268	
September October	723	2896	532	

The following is a statement of the aggregate relief, without the repetition, which is unavoidable in the foregoing tables; that is to say, the number of different families, and persons assisted for longer or shorter periods, through the successive weeks and months of the year, viz.:—

Number of Families Relieved from November 1st, 1854,	
to November 1st, 1855	15,549
Number of Persons	62,396
Number of Visits	55,893

The foregoing figures show the increase of relief to have been 260 per cent., or nearly three times greater than the average of previous years. And the amount of funds confided to the Association, in order to provide for this extraordinary destitution, corresponded therewith, as is shown by the subjoined statement of receipts and expenditures, viz.:—

Receipts from	Novembsr	1st, 185	4, to N	ovember	1st	,	
1855, wer	e .					\$90,209	66
On hand at da	ite of last A	Annual R	Report,			985	53
Balance due T	reasurer,					3,863	28
						\$95,018	47
Dichurcamants	and Annro	nriations	for sa	me nerio	7	\$95,018	47

Disbursements and Appropriations for same period, \$95,018 47

And now we are brought to the verge of another Winter, before the city and country have fully recovered from the disasters of the past year. Many who were then impoverished are still poor; business has not yet resumed its former activity, and the labor which, if rightly distributed, might be abundant for all the unemployed, is greatly overstocked in this City. The thinning out of our working population, and the remarkable decrease in the number of immigrants arriving compared with the arrivals of previous years, are among the minor causes which may tend to diminish the amount of destitution. But, beyond all other causes and influences, is the abundant harvest with which a benignant Providence has crowned the year, filling the land with food and gladness. What would have been the destitution and distress of multitudes consequent upon another year of scarcity it is painful and difficult to imagine. But certain it is, that the plentiful crops of the season have done more to counteract the

effects of financial embarrassment, diminish expenses of living, and create employment by restoring labor and trade to healthier activity, than all other causes. And yet, the frosts and snows of the coming winter cannot be anticipated in this City without gloomy prospects to thousands. Already the number and importunity of the destitute foreshadow an unusual amount of want and suffering. What there now is of remunerative employment will inevitably decrease, and the inclement season overtake multitudes who are unprepared for its approach. To provide for such, therefore, is not less a privilege than an obligation especially laid upon those whom the Giver of all Good has made the stewards of His bounty. From this responsibility, how shall such escape? And who thus favored, would desire it? In no other way can they render a more acceptable acknowledgment to Him who hath made them to differ, than to assist the needy whom He may thus providentially cast upon their care.

1855.	By Balance on hand 31st October, 1854, \$ 985 53 "Amount of Donations and Collections since received, 83,203 66 "Amount received for Legacies, 6,966 00 "Balance carried down, 3,863 28	\$95,018 47	New York, Oct. 31st, 1855.	E. & O. E., R. B. MINTURN, Treasurer.
1855.	To amount paid drafts of Trustees for District Appropriations, and Investments of sundry Legacies, \$95,018 47	\$95,018 47	1855. Oct. 31. To Balance due R. B. Minturn, Treasurer, \$ 3,863 28	E. &

The undersigned Committee hereby certify that they have examined the foregoing account, find it properly vouched and correct, showing a balance due the Treasurer this day of Three thousand Eight hundred and sixty-three dollars and twenty-

JOS. B. COLLINS, Auditing THOS. DENNY.

THOS. DENNY,

NEW YORK, Oct. 31st, 1855.

eight cents.

New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

13 A mark with a pen thus " in the columns, will point out the class to which the person named delongs. DISTRICT No. VISITOR'S MONTHLY REPORT OF SECTION No.

28

REMARKS. EXPENDED. cts. AMOUNT 60 Old Age. Misfortune. Sickness. Intemperate. Temperate. COUPATION KIND OF No. of Visits. No. in Family. Females. Males. Colored Persons. Natives. Foreigners. Which must be reported every month. RESIDENCE OF FAMILIES. Always give full Name, and male Head of Family, if living. FAMILIES RELIEVED.

Signed,

I isitor.

PRINTED FORMS USED BY THE ASSOCIATION.

Ticket of Reference for the use of Members.

Mr.

Visitor. Street. No

is requested to visit at No.

Member.

N. Y. Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

Visitor's Order.

Mr.

No.

Please let

have the value of

in

18

Visitor.

N. Y. Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

Street.

Monthly Report.

Subjoined is a condensed plan of a Sectional Monthly Return. The original occupies a large page of foolscap, with appropriate columns, fifteen in number, which enable Visitors to give the following particulars of every family relieved. 1st. Name, residence, place of birth, sex, color, occupation, time in the city, number in family, and number of visits. 2d. Statements of character, as being temperate or intemperate. 3d. Unavoidable causes of indigence, such as sickness, infirmity, or old age, with space for marginal remarks.

List of Members.

Owing to inadvertence in the returns from some of the Districts, it is feared that the List of Members, may not be perfectly accurate. Members sometimes, through mistake, pay other collectors what was designed for this Association. Occasionally, the names of contributors are so illegibly written, that they are printed incorrectly or necessarily omitted. All mistakes or omission of names will be gladly corrected by applying at the General Office, where such persons may obtain the Annual Report and Directory.

Aymar, William

Astor, Wm. B. Alley, Miss Aspinwall, J. L. Aspinwall, W. H. Andrew, Henry Mrs. Anderton, Ralph L. Comr Allen, R. L by J. Van- A Lady derbilt Averill, Horatio Mrs. Abbatt, Robert Abbatt, Wm. M. Allen, Horatio Adams & Buckingham Allison, M. jr. Auffmordt, Hessenberg Angus, Thomas & Co. Anderson, William Auchinclos, H. & Sons Adams, J. D. Adams, John & R. Wells Alley, J. P., M.D. An Actor Alsop, J. W. Ayınar & Co. Aymar, John Q. A. K. E. Alsop & Chauncey Appleton, D. & Co. Anthon, Doctor Rev. Allen, John Almy, Patterson & Co. Averill, A. Aguirre & Galway Allen, Wm. Adams, W. American Muscum Ahlborn, J. Ahrenfeldt, Charles Adams, C. Abbat, Adeline S. Alvord, C. A. A Friend, by Mrs. Mait- Arthur, Jayne & Co. land A Friend, by Miss White- A Friend

head

A Drop

A. Y.

A Friend, D. & B.

Abecl, John H. Averill, W. J. Aldrich, H. D.

Anderson, John

Armstrong, M. & Sons

Albro, S. V. Allen, W. C.

Ash, J. H.

A Lady Ayres, Samuel J. Correspondent, Mr. Spaulding A Grocer Commerce Adieu Abbe, George W. Allason, Wm. Ayres, Reuben Ackenback, Thos. Addams, John T. Abeel, Miss Aldams, John T. Abeel, Miss Alford, E. M. Arthur, Mr. Andrus, R. C. Albro & Brothers Atwood, Dunlevy & Co. Aspinwall, L. E. Mrs. A Friend Arthur, W. H. & Co. Averill, J. Watson Alexander Arnold, B. G. Allen, W. E. Amsinck, W. Allen, G. C. Althof Brothers Appleton, Daniel F. Anderson, A. A. & II. Arkenburgh, R.H. & Co. Aims, Jacob Adriance & Strang A Friend, by Miss White- Arnold, D. S. Apgar, L. Alborn, W. Allan & Rose Angevine, A. Adams, Jay Adams & Co. Alison, M. Avery Butler & Cecil Atwater, W. Arnoux, A. & G. Atwell, John Adams, R.

Anthony, Edward

Anthony, Michael by Austin & Miller Atkins & Miller Abrams & Johnson , per Journal of Allen, Alexander Althouse Anthony, J. Allison, Mrs. Archer, D. O. Arrowsmith, R. Anthony, T. Archer Alling, J. S. Allcock, Thomas Andrews, H. M. Ackenback, George Amerman, J. W. Aspinwaii, L. A Abbatt, Isaac Acly, T. R. Ameling, J. A. Anable, W. H. Asay, E. G. Austin, W. Ayres, J. W. Atwood, C. A. J. V. Angevine, O. Allen, Henry A Friend Allen, G. C. Arcularius, A. M. Allen, Gilbert A Friend Adriance, T. M. Ayres, Samuel P. Arnold, Lemuel Alexander, Henry M. Acker, James Allard, H. Anderson, A. T. Adelmann, A. Ash, Joseph Adams, P. C Ackerman, Mr. Angus, Mrs. A. C. Ashby, David

Ackerman, Mrs. Arnold, Constable & Co. A Friend Aaron, J. Amerinan, R. Aims, E. T. Ames, Mr. Anonymous Avery, J. W. Aikman, Hugh Asche, Henry Austin, F. J. A. G. Anderson, S. B. Albro, B. Abro, M. Allen, T. Arnold & Constable Alden, Paul Abbott, Gorham D. Ayres. Reuben Anderson, John Avocas, J. S.

B.

Brown, James Banyer, Maria Mrs. Burr, Isaac Mrs. Bronson, Mary Bronson, F. Beers, Abner Barnard, J. G., Major U. S. A. Brucn, A. M. Brown, Stewart Boorman, Johnston & Co Board of Brokers Boorman, James Benedict, J. W. Bolton, J., M.D. Bruce, George Banks, Mark Bronson, A. Mrs. Benkard, Jaines Babcock, Milnor & Co. Bell, Ranson & Grain Becbe & Co. Belmont, A. Banker, Edward & Son. Brown, Wm. Smith Brown, Wm. Smith Bangs, Brothers & Co. Barnum, P. T. receipts from his Museum. Baldwin, J. C.

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Finck, Lewis & Co. Finch, A. Ferris & Taber Fuller, Charles Forbes, Miss Fraser, Mr. Ferris, Doctor Fettman, J. W. Forbes, Wm. Freeman, John Fraser, Wm. Fisher, N. Fraser, S. S. Mrs. Fuller, D. B. Flint, C. Fowler, L. V. Fenton, John Frasee, Abraham Fairbank, D. Failing, A. D. Freeman, Wm. Freeman, James Forester, Charles Freund, V. Finch, Ferris Fulton, George Forrester Fleming, A. Fowler, T. O. Fancher, E. L. Freeman, D. V. Flagg, A. C. Francis, W. A. Franks, Edward Finlay, R. A. Freeman, N. P. Flanagan, J. R. Ferguson & Brother Faulkner, E. H. Forester, H. M. French, Samuel Franklin, Morris Fitch, Mr. Francis, Wm. Mrs. Fosdick, C. B. Mrs. Fink, Lewis Fleming, Robert Faulkner, J. C. Fuller, Mrs. Falls, W. H. Fanning, Thomas Foulke, T. Foulke, T. Fisher & Bird Friend Ferguson, James Fletcher, Edward H. Fink, Arnest Fletcher, O. B. Fuller, A. A. Farr, E. T. Friend to Poor Fox, Hugh Ford, P. Four, Frame, J. L.
Foulke, W.
Falvey, John f.
Flynn, Richard Griscom, John H.
Fagan, Thomas J.
Fanning, Solomon
Gardner, Moses
Goodell, Alfred Farley, John Francis, Norman Mrs. Freeborn, J. F. Floyd, B. W. Foster, Lee & Co. Francis, C. Fraser, E. A.

Foster, W. R. Frost, Margaret Foster, S. H. Friend to Poor Freeman, N. Frye, J. Fox, V. H. Fitz, Henry Foster, Benjamin

G. Griswold, George Grinnell, Mozes H. Griffin, G. Grosvenor, J. Green, J. C. Griswold, John Griswold, George jr. Goodhue & Co. Griswold, J. N. A. Giller, Emma Mrs. Gihon, John & Co. Graves, E. Boonan Graves, E. B. & Co. Grosvenor, Seth Grant & Barton Groesbeck, Brothers&Co. Gaynor & Co. Gihon, J. Gordon & Talbot Guedin. J. Goddards & Merrills Geery, J. W. Grici, Charles Geriffin, Doctor & others Gross, Michael Giraud, J. P. Gale, Wm. & Son Gray, John Greenway, J. H.
Greshway, J. H.
Gray, John
Gallatin, A. R.
Gelston, M.
Gilman, W. S.
Gibbes, R. M.
Gordon, Rober
Guion, Boardman & Co.
Gorman, J. D.
Gager, L. G.
Gorman, J. D. Gager, J. H. Gibby, R. W. Gillelan, E. W. Gilson, C. W. Griffin, Thos. B. M.D. Garritson, Franklin Gibson, A. Mrs. Griffin, W. T. Mrs. Green, Lucy M. Green, Mary R. R. Green, Horace M.D. Gilchrist, John W. Goodwin, E. Grand Lake, Ark. per Sidney E. Morse. Glover, Sarah, & Glover, Gillespie, J. Mrs. Glover, Sarah, & Glover, Oinespie, J. 2018.

Martha, both residing Griffen, S.
in Paris.
Glassford, F. P. Mrs.
Gillelan, E. H. Mrs. by Gardner, H.
Rev. Isaac Orchard Gumbs, E. Mrs.
(clothing).
Gillies, W. R.
Gilbert, Henry Griscom, John H. M.D. Graham, John C. Good, Wm. Gibson, J. R. Griffin, H. Greenough, J. J. Gregg, F. Gibson, Isaac Gray, Wm. Rev.

Gregory, Spencer Green, John Gray, Hiram B. Graff, John C. Gould, John Gomes, Wallis & Co. Giro & Francia Goierd, J. G. N. L. Greene, John H. Gudewill & Mohr Goedel, J. Gurney, J. G. G. A. G. F. G. G. M. H. Greene, Joseph W. Graham, M. G. M. Gilbert, C. Gutmann Brothers Green, G. T. Gage, John Gould, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Gordon, P. Green wood, Mr. Gage, Sloans & Dater Green, Thomas T. Gouraud, Felix Green, Doctor Grici, Charles Gibson, James Gedney, Sylvanus Gordon, Robert Gurnee Greenlief, M. Mrs. Gridley, Edward Gilbert, John S. Goldsmith, J. Getty, R. P. Gregory, L. Groshon, John Gunn, A. N. M.D. Greenleaf, Joseph Gibson, Robert Green, Edward Gordon, W. R. Rev. Gabauden, A. W. Greenough, Walter Goodliff, J. T. Graham, J. S.
Gilpie, J. W.
Gilley, F. W. & W. F.
Goadby, Thomas
Gallatin, J. Griswold, N. L. Green, W. C. Gunning, T. B. Greene, Martin E. Grant, M. Mrs. Gregory, J. Greenly, George Gentle, James Gunning, E. Graydon, Joseph

Gale, A. H. & Co. Geissenhainer, F.W. Mrs. Guion, J. H. Greenwood, Mrs. Garr, Elizabeth Gilman, Wm. C. Glover, Mr. Gregory, E. W. Goff, R. H. Grear, George Gould, Charles Goodman, R. G. F. A. Giraud, Sarah M. Gratacap, Lucinda Glover, R. E. Gerding, F. Garrison, Daniel Guest, F. B. Greenewald, Louis Gershel, H. Gilbert, John M. Goodenough, E. Gray, Thomas Greene, George W. Giles, F. Glissman, J. Grimes, C. Galagher, James Gillespie, J. M. Goodwin, J. W. Glover, Mr. Gamage, G. C. W. Gross Gallaudet, Thomas Glynn, L. Grady, Peter Green, Alonzo Guthrie, J. B. Goll, John T. Geary, Doctor Gillet, E. H. Greaves, J. L. Gallaher, A. Guion, E. M. M.D. Gutmann, H. Greeson, Mr. Groot, P. W. Greenway, Edward M. Gandy, S. Goodyear, H. B. Gibbs, T. S. Gibert, F. E.
G. W. B.
Goodrich, Miss
Greenleaf, Joseph
Gordon, W. R. D.D.
Gibson, Wood Gregory, James Gardner & Black Goldsmith, T. Gunning, Thomas B. Goodwin, W. H.

Η.

Harsen, Jacob M.D. Hale, Richard Hale, Richard Mrs. Hall, J. S. Herring, Silas C. Havemeyer, W. F. Havemeyer, D. M. Mrs. Hopkins, H. & J. Hope, Graydon & Co. Harris, Evans & Co. Hewitt & Co. Hall, Dana & Co. Hoyt, Edwin

Henry, Joshua J. Hennequin, Il. & Co. Havens & Co. Henn.
Havens &
Haviland, Bros.
Halsted, W. M.
Harrison, F. D. Miss
Herrison, F. D. Miss
Hodgkins, T. D.
Harltey, Robert M.
Hayden, P. & T.
Haight, D. H.
Haskell, Merrick & Bull Hallsted, G. C.
Hayes, O. J.
Hall, Ruckel & Co.
Halsted, E. S.
Hinricho, C. A.
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Hirchock, W. R.
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Hammersley, J. C. Mrs.
Hobby, J. T.
Hammersley, John A.
Halsted, Benjamin
Hammersley, John W.
Hoffman, L. M.
Hadden
H.
Harlsen & Co.
Harley, J. H.
Harley, J. H.
Harlsen, J. Harlsen, H.
Harlsen, J. H.
Harlsen, J Horn, James Hadden, D. Harmony, P., Nephew Huesmann & Co. & Co. Hawley, Irad Howes, R. W. Hamilton, Alexander Hall, G. L. H. D. Heyer, John Mrs. Hoppock, Ely Hueston, S. Hall, H. C. Hagadorn, Wm. Hinchlewood, Robt. Mrs. Hodgkins, G. Hubbell, Mrs. Heye Brothers Holdich, J. Rev. Hoppin, II. Hendee, C. M. Howard, Mrs. Hallock, Lewis, M.D. Howland, B. J. H. N. B. Harris, John Hatt, George Rev. Harris, W. D. Hall, Archibald Henderson, A. J. Hosack, N. P. Hewett, John Horton, Richard Rev. Hayter, Richard Rev. Hanson, John Hickson, J. S. Holland, John H. Hume, Andrew Helmsley & Cropper Hendricks & Brother Hargous Brothers Hunt & Averill Haggerty, Jones & Co. Hammond, Samuel Hoguet, A. Hirschorn, Louis Hawkins & Logan Hadden, Wm. A. Hamel, S. Hardt & Co. Heydceker, J. & C. Hosford, F. J. Howes, Mulford

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Herbert, Jacob Hasbrook, R.

Hedden, C. H.

Hemp, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Huyler, J. Huyler, J. Hallock, Wm. A. Rev. Hallock, Wm. H. Hill & Colby Howell, Amzi Houser & Son Holmer, John Hammel, J. Heyer, Mrs. Hard Howe, Samuel M.D. Hirst, E. Hasbourgh, Doctor Horner, C. H. Havemeyer, A. Hamilton, M. W. Havemeyer, F. C. Hatfield, R. G. Hallet, J. H. & Henriques, G. Harrison, James Hall, Wm. C. Hyatt, Thaddeus Hume, Thomas Higgins, S. & J. Harritt, James Hurd, J. R. Hays, John Haddock, W. J. Hendrix, Isaac Herder, N. D. Hamblin, H. W. Hunt, H. W. Hall, A. B. Higgins, D. C. Howland, W. Houghton, N. Hutchins, John Hoey, Peter Huson, Wm. Heller, W. Halsey, S. R. Hoffman, Mrs. Hawes, Mrs. Hudson, Mr.
Honey, H.
Herrick, J. B.
Hutton, M. S. Rev.
Holmes & Co. Howland, R. S. Rev. Henriques. J. A. Hutchins, W. Hunt, Wm. S. Hart, C. B. Hall, James Hageman, John Hyatt, Joseph A. Hilton, Mrs. Hillyer, J. B. Hillon, Mrs.
Huller, Margaret, Mr
Hilliyer, J. B.
Hollister, Emma
Hardenbergh, J. B. D.D. Hewlett, Joseph
Horner, James
Hoes, P. S.
Hausbrook, J. L.
Halstead, J. W.
Huller, Margaret, Mr
Hewlett, Sarah, Mrs.
Huff, F. M., Mrs.
Hught, Sarah, Mrs.
Hught, Mrs.
Hewlett, Joseph
Hewlett, Sarah, Mrs.
Hught, Mrs.
Hewlett, Sarah, Mrs.
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Hewlett, Mrs.
Hught, Mrs.
Hewlett, Mrs.
Hught, Mrs Horner, James
Hoes, P. S.
Hausbrook, J. L.
Halstead, J. W.
Holmes, R. T.
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Harlow, J. M., M. D.
Harris & Co.
Howard, S. W.
Hyatt, G. E. L.
Hart, J. G.
Hall, Archibald
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Hone, P. Holbrook, Mrs. Holbrook, L. H. Hoadley, David Hayden, Nathaniel Holbrook, D. B. Hayes, Horace Hunt, H. D.

Hunt, H. D.
Harrison, Henry
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N. J.
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J. C. & Co.
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Jones, W. P. Houghton, E Hodges, R. H. Horton, C. Hutschler, J. V. Hopkins, E. A. Hatñeld, G. Hoeft, John Holmes, David S. Hartens, H. Hainan, M. H. Hidden, E. Henderson, J. B. Hall, H. C. Howland, B. J. Henry, Philip, jr. Henwood, Wm. Harris, C. J.
Hoxie, Joseph
Horton, J. B.
Howell, Daniel, jr.
Huse, J. B. Howell, M. H. Hutchings, John Hutchinson, B. Howe, Bezaleel Holman, Henry Holdridge, A. H. Halsted, R. F., M. D. Hart, James Halsted, A. L. Houston, James Hazeltine, L. Harper, John Haight, T.

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Jaffray, J. R. & Sons Iselin & Co. J. E. W. & Co. Jaffray, R. Johnson, B. James, Henry Jones, Miss Jones, George Jones, George F. Irvin, Richard James, Beebe & Co. Jackson, James L. Johnston, John T.
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J. N. S. through Courier J. W.
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Jonas, Mr.
Jonas, Lott, Rev.
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Jackson, J. S. Jones, Joshua Johnson, F. Johnson, John Jenkins, Charles Johnson, R. R. Jackson, J. S. Ingraham, D. P. Jenkins, J. Foster M. D. Jenkins, Councilman

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Johnson, J.
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Jarkson & Many
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Jay, Ann, Miss
Jackson, G. R. & Co.
Irvin, C. W.
Jay, Elizabeth Clarkson, Jones, J. A.
Jones, J. A.
Jones, J. Q.
Jafray, J. R. & Sons
Jones, E. R., Mrs,
Iselin & Co.
Levies D. R. Jaques, D. R. Jervis, J. B. Johnson, Wm. Jones, S. W. Jackson, John Jackson, T. R. Jackson, W. H. Jeremiah, T. F. J. L. W. Innes, R. U.

Jordan, P.

Ingraham, S. P. Jennings, S. B. Jacobs, J. T. Jennings, W. S. J. N S. Johnson, Henry J. F. Johnson, Stephen Inhabitant in 17th St. Johnson, Cox, Fuller & Co King, J. Jones, G. Johnston, Austin, Vt.

K.

Knapp, Shepherd
Kaup, E. & Cummings
King, Peter V.
Kattenhorn & Romaine
Kemble, W. Ketcham, T. King, A. G. Kip, B. Livingston Kimball, E. B. Kimball, Mary Ann Kingsbury, O. R. Kinsley, Wm. H. Kennedy, John A. Kirby, William Kellogg, James Kellogg, E. M., M.D. Kelly, Richard Knox, James Kohnstamm, Solomon Koop, Fischer & Co. Kirtland, J. J. Karck, Ferdinand Korn, F. K. & W. Kissam & Keeler Kiggins & Kellogg Kelly, A. W. Kimm & Switzer Keep, Henry Knox, P. H. Kellogg, E. N. Knox, P. Kinson, W. B. Kinstry, J. D. Knapp & Peck Knight, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kettlewell, Mrs. Kerr, John Knapp, C. E. Kinch, W. Kate Kimble, M. G. C. Knapp, H. W. Kimzler, A. Kneeland, Charles Kemp, P. Kemp, John Knowlton, D. Knowlion, D.
King, R. S.
Kingsley, E. M.
Kissam, J. B., M.D.
Knapp, W. H.
Keys, John
Kennedy, Thomas
Kearney, E.
Kinsheadt A Kinsheedt, A. Knox, J. M. Knickerbocker Stages Kip, Isaac, jr. Knox, Calhoun & Mc-Clintock

Ketchum, E. Kimball, S. S. Kennedy, Emily, Mrs. Kellogg, Mrs. Kearney, Ann L., Mrs. Kiplang, H. Kinney, George Kingsland, D. Kissanı, A. B. Kennedy, T. Kilby, J. Keeler, J. R. King, John Kanffer, J. & Co. K. Kanner, J. & Co Kellock, J. Kennedy, R. L., Trustee Kemple, James Kernochan, Joseph Knapp, Shepherd Keyes, George Knapp, Shepherd Koepping, F. A. Kaup, E. & Cummings Knittleb, Mr. Kneidsen, C. W. Kelly, Mrs. Knockbel, H. Kirkman, J. Kelly, N. Kingman, H. W. Kook, Jacob Karnarus, John Ketchum Kurss, John Kirkland, Charles P. Keeler, D. B. King, Wm. F.

L.

Lenox, James Lenox, the Misses Lorillard, Peter Le Roy, Jacob Lees & Waller Lord, J. Couper Lane, Josiah Leroy, Thos., Otis & Co. Littell, E. B. & Co. Lockwood, H. & Co. Lambert, Edward & Co. Lottimer, Large & Co. Laight, W. E. Lane, W. J. Livingston, M. W. Lefferts, Helen, Mrs. Livingston, C. R., Mrs. Lawson, James Lawrence, Joseph Lester, Andrew & Co. Livingston, Margaret, Mrs. Leupp, C. M., proceeds of Grisi & Mario Concert Lord, Daniel Lord, Rufus L. Livingston, A. Low, Nicholas Lawrence, R. Leeds, S. Lees, James Lawrence, A. & A. Livingston, Mortimer Loeschigk, Wesendonck & Co. & Co. Lees, Case & Co. Livingston, M. & W. Livingston, R. E., Mrs. Lambert, George, J. Snow, and others, pro-fits of business for one

Week

Lord, Daniel D. Lefferts, Marshall Brothers Lydig, Philip Lazarus, Solomon Leggett, W. H. Leavey, John Ludlow, Mrs. Lea, Isaac C. Livingston, H. B. Ludlow, Mary L. Lynch, Mrs. Lowrie, John C. Livingston, W. B. Love, John Lewis, Richard B. Le Comte, V. Lewis, Robert La Wall, J. Lockwood, Frederick Lowerre, George W. Lane, Wm. Lester, J. W. Lord, Benjamin Lynes, S. C. Long, N. R. Lievesley, R. H. Lockwood, Jeremiah Lane, David Leaycraft, J. Lothrop, Ludlow, E. H., & E. J. Leon, E. Mallett Litchfield & Co. Lawrence, Murray & Lewis, John W.
Ingate Lewis, J. S. Little, Alden & Co. Lehmaier Brothers Lachaise & Fauche Lowndes, Thomas Lawrence, W. E. & Co.
Labach, W. & Schepeler Lyon, Eliphalet
Lyman, Brentnal, & Lowther, T. Hooper Lee, B. C. Ludlum & Pleasants Luling, Charles Lewis, G. M. Lenzman, Charles Langdon Livingston, & Co. Laverty, Wm. Lord, I. C. Loder & Lockwood Leverett, Josiah S. Liesc, F. Long & Davenport Lilliandohl, Wm. A. Loutrel, Francis Lang, W. B. Lemaitre, E. Larcombe, Hicks Mitchell L. C. Leary & Co. Laurence, S. & T. Luddington, H. B. Lathrop & Wilkinson Lockwood, F. D. Lilienthal, C. H. Lord, Imlay & Co. Lovell, H. O.

Lansdown, J. Lecompte, Nicholas

Long, J.

Lagrave, A.

Little, Andrew

Ludlum, N. S.

Lockwood, D. Lewis, R. B.

Littell, Payan & Car-Lyon, John hart Lee, J. P. Loughran, John Lynch, Wm. Lagrave, J. J. Lee, W. H. Lilienthal, Mr. Lattan, Lewis Lambert & Hedges Le Boutillier, Thomas Lowerre, Seaman Logan, Joseph Lincoln & Green Loines, Wm. H. Leake, H. P. Love, Mr. Loutrel, Cyrus D. Linher, C. Leonard Lowery, Mrs. Lord, Miss Lippiatt, Thomas Lowerie, Wm. Lockwood Le Grand Lamsen, E. O. Lect, Allen N. Leigh, C. C. Lawerence, W. E. Lothrop, W. R. Latting, John J. Lambert, J. Legget, A. Lowerie, G. Lamouraux, E. R. Lyon, Mr. Lathen, John F. L. N. B. Lord & Taylor Libby & Whitney Lawrence, W. E. & Co. Little, C. S. Ladd, Wm. F. Crocheron Livingston, Livingston Liscomb, H. P. Longstreet, Samuel Longstreet, Sar Leonard, Wm. Lyman, J, W. Lamson, Wm. Leaman, Andrew Livingston, Mrs. Luqueer, F. T. Laird, Alexander Lamb, A. Ludlow, J. R. & Livingston, Cambridge Lee, William Lathrop, A. Mrs. Lane, Adolphus Lilienthal, Rev. Doctor Laton, Robert Legget, A. A. Livingston, S. Luff, Mrs. Lane, Geo. W. Lee, O. H. Lasak, F. W. Lee, Wm. P. Lee, Jane A. Lawrence, N. Long & Davenport Lyon, A. M. Lawrence, John Lodewick, M.

Lutz, Joseph A. L. R. M. La Forge, B. Livell, A. Lander, T. D. Lockwood Laerseen, B. Layeman & Meikel Lary, Thomas Levy, Morris Lathrup, Mr. Leckie, Wm. Ludwick, S. Lennox, Robert Lawrence, J. B. Mrs. Lord, J. S. Lewis, Charles D. Ludlow, C. D. Lyon, Stephen L. H. H. Lounsbury, N. Lavery, R. & R. Leweck, G. L. C. Lawrence, Richard M. Laurence, A. R. Lee, David, Mrs. Lawrence, George N. Lyell, John H. Leverich, Sarah, Mrs. Lillie, John Lindeman, Wm. Lester, J. W. Lors, A. Lewis & Woodruff Lewis, Jacob R.

M.

Minturn, Sarah, Mrs. Murray, Mary, Miss Minturn, Robert B. Munn, Stephen B. Minturn, Edward Munn, W. H., Mrs. Marsh, James M. Moran Brothers Marsh, Samuel Mayor, received from the Merrian, I. I.
Miller, Horatio Morlay, J., jr.
MaCra- Balant Molay, J., jr. Miller, Horado McCrea, Robert Morgan, M, Machado, J. A. Marie & Kautz Murray, Miss McCleery, J. & Co. Martin & Lawson Meyer, F. W. Mayor, A.
Morris, L. S. & Co.
Mali, H. W. T.
Moller & Ricra Meyer & Stucken Morewood, George B. Munroe, Thomas & Co. Martin, William C. Munroe, Alfred & Co. McCurdy, R. H. Morris, G. W. Miller, W. S., Mrs. Miller, H. Morris, A., Mrs. Magie, D. Menzies, William Miller, W. P. Main, J. T. Morgan, J. W. Marsh & Northrup Mattison & Isham Mott, W. F.

Macy, Josiah Miles, William B. Mortimer, Richard Macy, W. H. Maitland, R. S. Mackay, A. Mortimers & Gawtry Morgan, H. T. Mason, Sidney Mills, Drake More, Nathaniel F.
Mott, W. T.
Morris, Peter & Co.
Mackay, W.
Mott, W. F., jr.
Muhlenberg, Rev. Dr.
Morrit W. S. Merritt, Miss Murray, Hannah S. Morse, Sidney E. Mann, E. J. Mellis, J. F. Merley, J., jr.
Morely, J., jr.
McCready, Ann, Mrs.
McIlvaine, B. R.
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Shepherd, T. Schenck, M. Smith, Harrison Smith, Samuel Smith, Mr. Schuyler, J. F. Schmidt Slocum, J. J. Smith, J. Sommers, T. S. Sinclair, John Schoonmaker, J. O. Schoonmaker, Mr. Sullivan, John Schmidt, L. W. Scott, Thomas & Son Squire, L. L. Stout, R. Sears, Robert Stewart, J. R. Rev. Somerville, A. & M. Sniffen, S. G. Stelle, Adolphus Stephens, James S. P. & E. Seabold, Jacob Stevens, Mrs. Smith, Jacob Smith, D. M. Smith, A. N. Smith, A. F. Son, J. A. Selleck, D. R. Sands, A. B. & D. Smith, James Sigler, H. V. Shortt, John Smith, J. J. Seaman Schofield, M. Smallwood, J. L. Stephens, James Scott, Thomas Scott, W. B. Strange, E. B. Shelton, T. B. Smith, Sheldon S. C. Starkweather, H. Salter, Benjamin Shaw, James M. Smith & Conant Summers & Calkins Sprague, S. Seaman, C. Solinger, G. Siniken, H. Schroder, John Smith, William Sanford, Nathan Smith, D. J. A. Snow, G. W. & children Scott, J. W. M.D. Sixth Street Church Sibell, W. E Stevens, David Smith, T. Franklin Smith, Henry M. Smith, C. H. Smith, Thomas D. Smithson, Charles Scott, David B. Seward, M. A. Seward, M. A. Smith, D. H. Stone, H. G. Seely, W. H. Smith, H. W., M.D. Savage, C. C. Schermerhorn, J. W.

Titus, James H. Talbot, Charles N. Three non-Residents Thorn, Jonathan Tweedy Trimble, George T. Tuckerman, J. & L. Tutwiler, II., Green Spring, Ala., per J. C. Hills Thurston, C. M. Taylor, Richards, & Owens Titus, Samuel P. Townsend, W. H. Thurston, W. A. Tiffany & Co. Todhunter, J. Taylor, J. L. Tatham, Brothers Taylor, M. Townsend, Clinch & Dyke Townsend, R. A. L. Teffts, Griswold & Kellogg Tatham, Benjamin Tapscott & Co. Tracy, Irwin & Co. Terbell, Henry Tucker, N. C. Terbell, Henry
Tucker, N. C.
Treadwell, E.
Treadwell, Acker & Co.
Trenor, J.
Trenor, J.
Thompson, D.
Trafford, Abraham Thompson, D. Thayer, J. S. Tomes, Francis & Sons Templeton, Mrs. Townsend, E Thurston, Wm. N., jr. T. A. R. Townsend, John R. Mrs. Thurston, R. H. Mrs. Thorne, E. Tayler, Charles Tayler, Charles
Townsend, Eliza
Tyson, William
Thorn, Sarah W.
Terry, David, Rev.
Tucker, Daniel N.
Tripp, Ervin H.
Terbell, H. S.
Teets, Philip
Taylor, Moses R Taylor, Moses B. Tritton, Richard Tooker, Samuel Tracey, M. C. Terbell, Jeremiah Thorp, Richard A. Triner, Joseph Tice, William H. Turner, James B. Trafford, Abraham Thompson, R. Turner, John Townsend, J. Tompkins & Co. Townsend, Tompkins & Co.

Torrey, Joseph

Thompson, J. Turnbull & Co.

Trimble, M.
Thomas, A. & Co.

Taylor, Richards & Co. Taillant, C. L.

Tucker

T. P. T. B.

Thewing, C. & E. W. Treadwell, G. C. & Co. Trowbridge, Henry Thorp, A. & H. S. Tenny, James Todd, G. W. Tinson, R. & Co. Thompson, John Trucsdell, E. D. Tuttle, J. M. Taylor, J. B. Toole, W. S. Tilton, R. Tilden, William Thomas, David Tooker, Samuel Tarrant, Eliza, Mrs.
Tappen, John
Taylor, Mrs.
Tracy, M. C. Thomas, Brothers Tracy, S. P. Taylor, Jane, Mrs. Thorn, C. W. Townsend, E. J. Turner, J. W. Townsend, J. H. Tallman, Abraham S. Taylor, T. B. Thompson, M. E. Trainor, J. Townsend, J. S. Tully, Doctor Thomas, Washington Turner, D. H. Thurston, C. C Thomson, John Thomson, Mason Tucker, Joseph Tilford, J. M.
Totten, G. M., Mrs.
Taylor, H. A.
Terry, Brothers Timpson, James Thatcher, J. C. Turner, Professor Thomson, Wm. A.
Tallmadge, W. C.
Taggart, J. W., Rev.
Taylor, Robert Thomson, Samuel Tappen, Mrs. Thompson, D. B. Thompson, John Tooker, Mrs. Thompson & McDowell Van Winkle, E. S. Tallmadge, H. F., Mrs. Van Wyck, H. L. Townsend, E. M. Van Hook, W. Torrey, John Tillinghast, P. Townsend, D. Y.
Truslow, William
Thorndike, J. Tilford, J. A. Thurston, N.

Taylor, James

Thompson, A. T. C. I.

Taylor, J. B.

Thompson, Joh Thompson, Mr.

Terhune, T. Taylor, Alexander Trow, W. H.

Tompson, James Townsend, R. T. Telfair, Jacob R. Tapp, C. Taylor, Joseph S. Twomey, Jeremiah Twomey, Mrs. T. W. Thorn, Charles E. Tieman, George Toal, Charles Tremper, M. Tremper, Harman Trowbridge, Geo. A. Tremont, J. Mrs. Tappen, G. jr.
Townsend, F. E., Mrs.
Troup, Wm. S.
Thorn, Charles E. Titus, George N. Turell, William Thorp, A. Thompson, Jonn, M.D. Thompson, G. W. Timpson Thorp, George W. Terbell, R. Mrs. Thorp, Richard A.

U.

Ubsdell, Peirson & Lake Underhill, Doctor Ule, Mr. Underhill, A. Uhl, Anna Underhill, J. Underhill, W, Underhill, Josuua S. Ustick, Richard Upson, Stephen

Van Auken, Mrs. Van Arsdale, John Van Wagenen, J. Van Wagenen, C. D. Van Cott, Gabriel Van Horn, Abner Van Schaick, M. Mrs. Van Wagenen, W. F. Van Rensellaer, H. R. Vyse & Sons Vose, Perkins & Co. Van Volkenburgh, P. Van Rensselaer, A. Van Nest, Abraham Van Auken, James Van Antwerp, S. Mrs. Van Nostrand, D. Van Wyck, Charles Van Allen, William Van Heynegen, Nicholas Van Beuren, H. S. Van Arsdale, Henry, M.D. Vickers, James
Victor, Frederick and
Achilles
V. & D.
V. & M. Varnum, J. B. jr. Van Nortwick, W. B. V. A.

Von Seyt, A. Vogt, John & Co. Van Blankensteyn & Heineman Vernon, Brothers Van Nest, A. R. Vernon, E. Vannostrand, J. & H. Vassar & Co. Van Benschoten Van Winkle, H. Vliet, S. Van Buskirk, W. J. Van Winkle, Doctor Vandervoort, Doctor Vredenburgh, Peter Van Antwerp, Peter Van Cleak, J. T. Van Nest, John Vanderburgh, James Vandervoort, M. A. Veitch, William Van Vleck Van Dyck, P. Van Raden, B. Van Winkle Van Tine, T. H. Vreeland, J. M. Van Antwerp Van Santvoord, C. Van Vorst, H. C Van Wyck, J. T. Valentine, D. T. Valentine, G. Valentine, G. Voorhes, Abraham Vermilye, Thos. Rev. Van Allen, J. S. Van Buren, J. Van Riper, John N. Vanderbilt, G. G. Vandervoort, H. Vreeland, C. & D. Van Woort Van Wagner, Mr. Van Sleet, Simon Van Buskirk, D. Van Brunt, G. B. Van Brunt, S. A. Van Nostrand, J. Vernol, L. & T. Vandewerken, E. Vance, J. Van Wicke, Cornelia Valentine, Mrs.

W.

Woolsey, Edward Wetmore, A. R. Wolfe, John D. Wood, William Winslow, Lanier & Co. Walsh, A. Robinson Walsh & Coulter White, Eli White, Robert, jr. Wright, James, B. Whitney Wells, R. & John Adams Watson Ward, A. H. Whittlesey, J. P., New Haven Woodruff, James E. & Co. Wessens, Francis Weeks, E. A. Ward & Co. Wolfe, Gillespie & Co. Wetmore, Samuel Whitlock, A. & Co.

Westervelt, J. A., Sons Windle, J. B. & Co. Wythe, L. J. Walker, Joseph Whetten, William Wakeman, Abraham Walker, William Watson, John Wilmerding, Hoguet & Humbert Whiting, A. Wendell, John L. Wainwright, E. Waters, Horace & Clerks Wilks, Doctor Wycoff, S. Wilmerding, W. E. Waterbury, Mrs. Whittemore, T. Wood, O. E. Wood, O. E. Wheeler, G. F. Westfall, J. & D. Ward, T., M.D. Williams, P. H. & W. Wells, Brothers Webb, W. W. White, Charles B. Withers, R.
Wood & Hughes
Wells, Fargo & Co.
Whitlock, W. jr. Wakeman, Dimon & Co. Welbrook, H. Ward, Campbell & Co. Wood, Mabbit & Co, Winslow, R. H. Wotherspoon, Kingsford & Co. Ward, G. C, Wallace, Wicks & Co. W. J. S. Watts, D. Whitney, A. Wyan, M. Wyckoff, J. F. Wolfe, Christopher Wilson, John G., Mrs. Withaus, R. A., Mrs. White, T., Wolfe, J. D. Watts, Ridley Weston, J. H., Rev. Watts, Anna, Mrs. Wood, Isaac Weeks, H. T. White, Robert H. White, Leonard D. Warburg & Co. Winterhoff, R. E. Whipple, A. W. Wiggins, W. H. Wiggins, W. H. Westcoat, Isaac, Rev
Williamson, Mann & Co
Wise, Marcus
W. & W.
Wilson, Williams, W. R.
Walter, T. E.
Wiggins, A.
Wyckoff, M.
Waring, M. A., Mrs.
Walters T & Co.
Wilson, Walters
Williams, M. H. Watter, T. & Co.
Wiggins, A.
W. E. W. & Co.
Waterbury & Walker
Wolfers, T. & Co. Whitney, J. S. & Co. Wood, F. Walker, John J. Widdefield & Cohu Weber, John Williams, F. B. Williams, J. T.
Williams, J. T.
Winans, A. W.
Wheeler, W. A. & Co.
Ward, M., Close & Co.
Wallack, Willy Wallack, Will Windle, W. B.

W. George B. W. H. E. & Co. Williams, C. P. & E. Watson, Charles Wetmore, L. Walkins, J. L. Walker, Edward W. W. H. B. (15th Ward) Wells Wood, S. S. Wily, John & Co. Wyman, J. G.
Warner, A. K.
Wilson, L. O. & Co.
White & Wright
Warren, W. T. Woodword, J. Wygant, J. Wells, Wait Williams & Meeker Walton & Southart Wilson, J. S. Wallace, Mr. Wright & Gilles Williamson, C. B. Whitlock, Freneau, Anderson & Co. Westbrook, H. Waldron & Insly Walton & Co. Wittres, Mr. Whitlock, M. P. Waller, H. C. Williams & Stevens Warner, Thomas Ward, Sylvester Wood, D. A. West, W. G. Whitney, M. S. White, S. Wiggins, Mr. West, William Witstein, J. Wilson, Daniel Wood, Benjamin Waters, Charles Warner, Andrew Woodgate, Mrs. Walton, J. B. Wood, Mr. Walker, J. Wickstead, J. J. Wight, J. W. Wooding, J. Westcoat, Isaac, Rev. Williamson, H. Williams, Thomas Wilson, W. M. Woodruff, Marcus Woodruff, Marcus, I. Wells, H. M. & Bonte-Westervelt, John Williams, M. Walker, A. Wilson, William, M.D. Woodhouse, Captain Wisner, D. B. Webb, E. D.

Wilcox, W. J. Westervelt, B. J. Wilson, Mrs. Waring, C. B. Walduck, R. M. Webb, Anna, Mrs. Williams, Erastus Williams, George G. Ward, Adam White, Edward Withington, Lewis Weeks, H. A. Wallace Waller, R. Woodhead, J. Woodruff, T. T. Wagner, D. B. Warren, James Wallace, John Wallerstein, D. Weeks, George A. Weston, M. L. Watkins, W. S. Wood, J. N. Wold, J. N.
Whitney, C. A.
Wray, S.
Wells, O. P., M.D.
Wandell, B. C.
Welchman, F. W. Webster, Professor Williams, J. P. Williams, J. P.
Westervelt, Edward
White, G. F., Mrs.
Welstood, J. G.
Wright, W. W.
Walton, W. T.
Wood, J. C.
Williams, Thomas D.
Wilson, B. M.
Weston, G. S. Weston, G. S. Wilder, C. Wortendyke, D. D. A. Williams, G. H. Westbrook, Samuel Wixon, Samuel Wheeler, Edward Whitney, Thomas A. Webb, W. H. Winthrop, B. R. Williams, Charles Wright, N. Wendel, John D Wales, S. H. Whitehead, J. Wood, Mrs. Wheaton, Mrs. Wallace, William Water Street Watson, John Wheeler, Mrs. Wentworth, J. W, Wilkinson, B. Wilhelm, H. N. Wakeman, H. Woodruff, L. B. Willis, Edward Winans, J. C. Webb, Thomas Warner, Samuel A Welling Wardell, Mr. Worthen, W. E. White, J. L. Wooding, David Windle, W. B. Windle, W. B. White, T., Mrs. White, Thomas Wade, C. C. Ward, J. H. H. Watkins, J.

W. B. Wallis, P. Wagener, John W. Z. Wendle, P. Weeks, William H. Wood, J. L. White, P. A. Woodford, O. W. Williams & Hinman W. R. W. West, Daniel Williams, Richard S. Warren, J. M. Wade, B. O. Wood, Sarah M. Waring, Samuel J. Willets, S. W. A. F. Willis, E. W. Wetteran, George Weinberger, John Weismann, A. White, A. L. Walker, Adam Watts, H. II. Wooding & Pigot Woodward, R. T. White, Norman Wallace, Mrs. Williamson, D. A. Weeks John A.

Wright, James Watts, William White, C. P. W. H. H. M. Walton, W. Wilson, H. Ward, Henry Dana Wilson, Miss Whitney, Mr. Willson, A. G. Worrall & Co. Wood, Charles V. Wray, Christopher Willet, J. C. Wissing, James Weeks, H. A. Wright, D. D. Waterbury, Joseph Wiese, Paul Wallace, J. P. Wilson, N. Williams, Stephen C. Winant, S. K. Watkins, John L. Whittelsey, H. Waterbury, S. Williams, Charles F. Walker, George Worrell, Noah Waddell, Samuel Warren, T. Watkiss, Lewis

Wiseburn, Lawrence Walton, J. B. Wardell, O. T. Warne, John Weir, James Wheaton, William Wicker, Henry Wicker, George W. Wood, Henry Wissing, James Waldron, Cornelius Walker, William A. West, Henry P. Ward, Warren Weeks, William Whitely, G. Wilkin, John Wood, John Wood, James Walker, William White, G. T. Winter, E. T., M.D. Winterson, Samuel S. Wilson, Jotham Woolsey, E. J. Winston, F. S.

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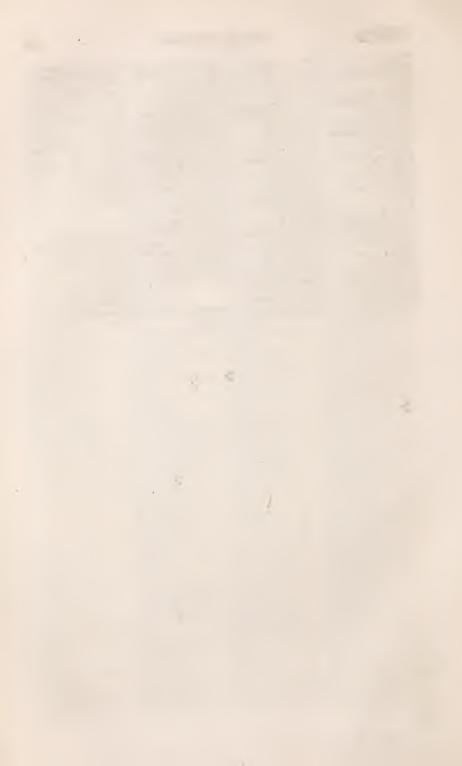
Winterbottom, James

Youngs, Gerdes & Co. Yelverton & Fellows Yznaga, A. Young, Hiram Young, E. M. Youle, G. Yates, A. E., Mrs. Youngs, G. Youngs, B. Yereance, Richard Young Ladies of Woreester, Mass. Young Ladies of Falmouth, Mass. Youngs, D. L. Young, C. J. Young, Henry

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Zinn, Charles & Co. Zabriskie, George, Mrs. Zabriskie, Albert C. Zabriskie, C. Zebley, J. F. Zerega, A.

Zabriskie, C. A. Zabriskie, A. C. Zabriskie, C. jr. Young, Archd., & Van Zimmerman, Miss



APPENDIX.

A Summary Statement of the Objects and Principles of the Association, for the Information of Members and Visitors.

The design of this Association is the elevation of the moral and physical condition of the indigent; and, so far as is compatible with this design, the relief of their necessities.

Every person who becomes an annual subscriber or a Visitor, is a member

of this Association.

The following is an abstract of the fundamental rules by which it is governed:

1. To regard each applicant for relief as entitled to charity, until a careful

examination proves the contrary.

2. To give relief only after a personal investigation of each case, by visitation and inquiry.

3. To relieve no one excepting through the Visitor of the section in which he lives.

4. To give necessary articles, and only what is immediately necessary.

5. To give what is least susceptible of abuse.

6. To give only in small quantities in proportion to immediate need; and of coarser quality than might be procured by labor, except in cases of sickness.

7. To give assistance at the right moment; not to prolong it beyond the duration of the necessity which calls for it; but to extend, restrict, and modify

relief, according to that necessity.

8. To require of each beneficiary abstinence from intoxicating liquors as a drink; of such as have young children of proper age, that they be kept at school, except unavoidable circumstances prevent; and to apprentice those of suitable years to some trade, or send them to service. The design being to make the poor a party to their own improvement and elevation, the wilful violation or disregard of these rules, shall debar them from further relief.

9. To give no relief to recent emigrants having claims on the Commissioners of Emigration, except in urgent cases for two or three days, or until that department can be informed of such cases, when the responsibility of this

Association towards them shall cease.

- 10. To give no aid to persons who, from infirmity, imbecility, old age, or any other cause, are likely to continue unable to earn their own support, and consequently to be permanently dependent, except in extreme cases for two or three days, or until they can be referred to the Governors of the Almshouse.
- 11. To discontinue relieving all who manifest a purpose to depend on alms, rather than on their own exertions for support, and whose further maintenance would be incompatible with their good and the objects of the Institution.

12. To give to those having claims on other charities, a card directing them thereto, which indicates thereon, why such relief was refused by the Association; also a card, a duplicate thereof, which the member should require the applicant to produce, when he affirms that the Association has denied him relief.

As it would be impracticable to give a detailed exposition of the foregoing rules in this Directory, members and others are referred for this purpose, to

the Visitor's Manual, and other published documents and Reports.

Most of the rules will, doubtless, commend themselves at once to approval. As it respects others, the propriety of which may appear less obvious, the fol-

lowing brief explanations are offered.

In the 9th Rule, recent emigrants are not considered proper subjects of relief, because the Commissioners of Emigration are obligated by law to care for such persons, if needy, for five years after their arrival, and are provided with means for this purpose. Consequently, every dollar expended on such cases by the Association, would be an improper appropriation of so much of its funds, intrusted to it for other objects.

In the 10th Rule, the permanently dependent are not regarded as proper subjects, because if these should continue to be relieved, the entire funds of the Association would soon be exhausted in the support of a permanent list; and its primary objects—the elevation of the moral and physical condition of the poor—be defeated. Such persons should become an in-door public charge,

which is far preferable to reliance on incidental relief.

The 11th Rule refers to those who have become so pauperized in spirit by long-continued vagrancy or gratuitous relief, or so debased by other causes, that there is no hope of inciting them to self-support, and to aid whom, would

encourage vice and indolence, and foster a great social evil.

The 12th Rule especially interests members, inasmuch as its observance will always inform them, if an applicant is denied relief, the reason of such denial. The complaints of unrelieved applicants who have been sent to the Association, should therefore not be listened to, until they have produced a card from the Visitor; for a card assigning the reason of refusal is always given to the unrelieved applicant, which, if produced, will show why he was not relieved; and if unproduced, a proof that he has been attended to. In either case, the member will thus be made acquainted with the action of the Visitor, and the reason for it.

Two or three important results involved in the observance of the foregoing Rules, deserve notice. First, by refusing aid to the persons described, none are necessarily left to suffer. Even those who obstinately persist in their vicious courses, and cannot be relieved by this charity without injury to them and to the community, still have a resource in the legal relief to which they are referred, so that all are cared for. Second, the Association does not supersede existing charities, but so far as is practicable, makes them available to those for whom they are designed. Third, that it is governed by such humane and economical considerations, as have most important moral and social bearings on the individuals concerned, and the public.

Visitors in complying with the foregoing Rules, should carefully direct their attention to such particulars, bearing on the different classes indicated therein, as will qualify them for an intelligent and judicious discharge of their highly important and responsible duties.

The attention of members is also called to the said Rules, and their co-operation with the Visitors most earnestly solicited; for without it, the great and difficult work in which the Association is engaged, cannot be effective.

tually accomplished.

Applications are not unfrequently made at unseasonable times, and hours, by professedly homeless, needy persons, for immediate relief, or for the

means of procuring lodging for the night; and those applied to are often at a loss how to dispose of such cases. Generally such persons are impostors, and artfully urge their appeal under circumstances which preclude investigation, and are most likely to induce relief. If unknown, they should not be aided, but sent to one of the nearest Station Houses, which are always open for their reception. The following is a list of the Station Houses in the different parts of the city.

First.—At Franklin Market. Second .- 49 Beekman-street. Third.—38 Barclay. Fourth.-9 Oak. Fifth.—49 Leonard. Sixth.—9 Franklin-street. Seventh.—Foot of Gouverneur. Eighth.—Prince, corner of Wooster. Ninth.—Jefferson Market. Tenth.-Essex Market. Eleventh.-Union Market. Twelfth .- Harlem. Thirteenth .- Attorney, corner of Delancy. Fourteenth.—Centre Market. Fifteenth.—220 Mercer.
Sixteenth.—West 20th st., between 7th and 8th Avenues. Seventeenth .- Cor. 1st Avenue and Fifth street. Eighteenth.—319 Second Avenue. Nineteenth.—59th st., near 3d Avenue. Twentieth.—West 35th st., between 8th and 9th Avenues. Twenty first .- 29th st., between 4th and 5th Avenues. Twenty-second.—8th Avenue, near 48th street.

To the District Secretaries and Visitors of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

NEW YORK, October, 1854.

Gentlemen:—In compliance with the instructions of the Board of Managers, I herewith transmit for your use, a copy of "An Act to provide for the care and instruction of idle and truant children," passed April 12th, 1853, which is as follows:

The People of the State of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1. If any child, between the ages of five and fourteen years, having sufficient bodily health and mental capacity to attend the public schools, shall be found wandering in the streets or lanes of any city or incorporated village, idle and truant, without any lawful occupation, any justice of the peace, police magistrate, or justice of the district courts, in the city of New York, on complaint thereof by any citizen on oath, shall cause such child to be brought before him for examination, and shall also cause the parent, guardian, or master of such child, if he or she have any, to be notified to attend such examination. And if on such examination, the complaint shall be satisfactorily established, such justice shall require the parent, guardian, or master to enter into an engagement in writing, to the corporate authorities of the city or village, that he will restrain such child from so wandering about, will keep him or her on his own premises, or in some lawful occupation, and will cause such child to be sent to some school at least four months in each year, until he or she becomes fourteen years old. And such justice may, in his discretion, require security for the faithful performance of such engagement. If such child has no parent, guardian, or master, or none can be found, or if such parent, guardian, or master refuse or neglect, within a reasonable time, to enter into such engagement, and to give such security, if required, such justice shall, by warrant under his hand, commit such child to such place as shall be provided for his or her reception, as hereinafter directed.

2. If such engagement be habitually or intentionally violated, an action may be brought thereon, by the overseers of the poor, or either of them, of such city or village, in the name of the corporate authorities thereof, and on proof of such habitual or intentional violation, the plaintiff shall recover therein a penalty of not more than fifty dollars with costs. And thereupon, the magistrate or court, before whom such recovery shall be had, shall by warrant commit such child to the place so provided for his or her reception, as

aforesaid.

3. The corporated authorities of every city and incorporated village, shall provide some suitable place for the reception of every child that may be so committed, and for the employment of such child in some useful occupation, and his or her instruction in the elementary branches of an English education, and for his or her proper support and clothing. Every child so received shall be kept in such place until discharged by the overseers of the poor, or the commissioners of the almshouse of such city or village, and may be bound out as an apprentice by them, or either of them, with the consent of any justice of the peace, or any of the aldermen of the city, or any trustee of the incorporated village where he may be, in the same manner, for the same periods, and

subject to the same provisions, in all respects, as are contained in the first article and fourth title of the eighth chapter and second part of the Revised Statutes, with respect to children whose parents have become chargeable on any

city or town.

4. The expenses of providing and maintaining such place for the reception, clothing, support, and instruction of such children, shall be defrayed in the same manner as charges for the support of paupers, chargeable upon such city or village; and the corporate authorities of every city and village shall certify to the board of supervisors of the county, at their annual meetings, the amount necessary for said purposes, which amount the said supervisors shall cause to be levied and collected as part of the taxes for the support of the poor, chargeable to such city or village.

5. It shall be the duty of all police officers and constables, who shall find any child in the condition described in the first section of this act, to make

complaint to a justice of the peace, as provided in the said section.

6. The fees of justices for services performed under this act shall be the same as allowed by law in cases of vagrancy, and shall be paid by the city or village in which they were rendered.

7. This act shall take effect immediately.

You scarcely need be reminded, that the education and religious instruction of the children of the poor, and their subsequent apprenticeship to some occupation or trade, so as to qualify them in after life to become useful and industrious citizens, were among the earliest objects to which the attention of the Association was directed. And it will be fresh in your recollection, that the Board of Managers, last winter, solicited your special efforts to induce the attendance at school of the children of suitable age, whose parents applied to this Institution for aid. Now, the foregoing law not only strengthens our hands in this good work, but encourages us to renewed exertions by the assurance that in the judgment of the Legislature, we have not overrated the importance of the subject.

The act in question is believed to be wise in its provisions, and beneficent in its objects. The necessity of providing by law for the organization and support of public schools, is universally conceded, since experience has shown that it is not safe to leave an interest so vital to the welfare of society, to the

sense of daty, or public spirit of individuals.

Public Schools having been thus provided, it follows that attendance upon them in certain cases, should be made obligatory. For it is clear that schools can be of little benefit to those who cannot, or will not attend them. If the parent is intemperate, incompetent, or indifferent to the education of his children, the law should take his place, and see that they are properly trained. If he is avaricious, and desires to make gain out of the tender bones and sinews of his offspring, to the entire neglect of their mental and moral culture; or, if he is reckless and unprincipled, and, as is common in this city, sends out his children to beg or steal, that he may lazily subsist on the means thus obtained; it is right and expedient that the State should protect itself against such evils, while it enforces the just claims, and promotes the best interests of the unprotected.

Why is it that the neglected children of our city have so long furnished the class which endangers life and property among us, and tenants our prisons and penitentiaries? It is because mere moral influence, opposed by parental authority, has been incompetent to effect their recovery; and because previous legislation had shrunk from its high duty in respect to them. The law, which is so omnipotent concerning adults, whose stringent provisions reach our modes of living,—which regulate the steamer, the rail-car, the stage-coach,—the markets which supply our food,—polices our streets, and ordains in what kind of houses we shall not live; which, with almost unlimited power, binds and unbinds the marriage tie, interferes between man and man husband and wife,

brother and sister,—has, until now, failed to extend its protecting care over

unprotected and neglected children.

But this anomaly in legislation no longer exists. Our State has the merit of being foremost in this great work of reform, and of thus establishing for itself a lasting memorial of its wisdom and beneficence. By assuming the place of a parent to its helpless children, and undertaking their training, it raises them from the degradation of their previous condition to one of equality with the other pupils of our public schools, while it saves such pupils from the

dread of debasement by intercourse with them.

The Legislature, be it observed, has now done all that it can consistently do. It has framed the machinery, and put it into our hands. But that machinery will be useless lumber, or fail to effect its purpose, except it be put into operation. Any citizen can do this, by causing the arrest of these unfortunate or vicious children, and placing them under the control "of any justice of the peace, police magistrate, or justices of the district courts," who are bound to take cognizance thereof, and care for all such cases. While this, however, is the duty of every citizen, it is in a peculiar sense obligatory on this Association, because of its relations to the poor and their offspring, and its superior facilities for acting with proper intelligence and efficiency through its numerous Visitors, in respect to all requiring their interference; also, by co-operating with the public officers, whose imperative duty it is to attend to all such children as are described in the foregoing Act.

The Board would therefore respectfully urge on Visitors a faithful enforcement, in all proper cases, of the foregoing law; also, the carrying out of the March Circular, in respect to the children of such families as apply to the Association for relief. For by the joint operation of these measures, there is ground to expect that much of the juvenile vagrancy and mendicity of the city will be corrected, and invaluable benefits thereby accrue to the community, and to ah interesting yet dangerous, and hitherto almost hopeless, class of our popula-

tion. By order of the Board.

Respectfully yours,

R. M. HARTLEY, Secretary.

